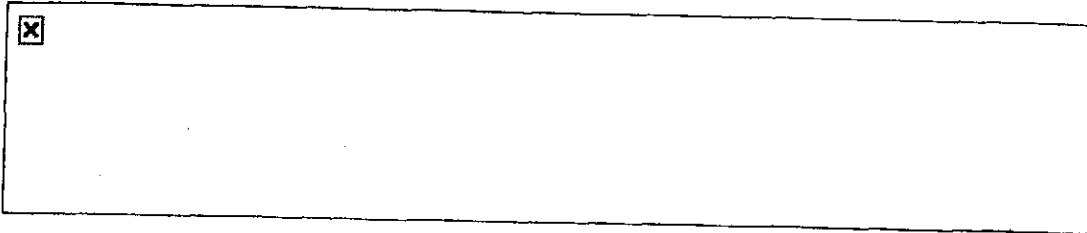
Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 9:28 AM
To: Smith; Lynne M (GOV)
Subject: FW: NCOIL TARGETS HEALTH REFORM AT SUMMER MEETING--SUPPORTS EXTENDING YOUNG ADULT HEALTH BENEFITS
Importance: High

From: Jordan Estey [mailto:JEstey@nolan-associates.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2008 3:31 PM
Subject: NCOIL TARGETS HEALTH REFORM AT SUMMER MEETING--SUPPORTS EXTENDING YOUNG ADULT HEALTH BENEFITS
Importance: High

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Susan Nolan
Jordan
Estey
NCOIL National Office
518-687-0178

NCOIL TARGETS HEALTH REFORM AT SUMMER MEETING—SUPPORTS EXTENDING YOUNG ADULT HEALTH BENEFITS

New York, NY, July 15, 2008 — As part of an ongoing effort to increase health insurance access and affordability for the uninsured and underinsured, the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) adopted on July 13 a *Resolution in Support of Extending Dependent Health Benefits for Young Adults*. Lawmakers acted during the July 10 through July 13 NCOIL Summer Meeting here.

According to Rep. Susan Westrom (KY), Committee co-chair and sponsor of the resolution said,

> It is hard for young adults to obtain health insurance—they move in and out of jobs more frequently and are more likely to be employed in positions where benefits are not available. While extending benefits to young adults is not a panacea to the many access problems facing our health insurance system, it allows them to obtain coverage that would otherwise be unavailable or unaffordable.

The resolution recognizes state efforts to provide additional health insurance benefits for young adults. It supports the extension of existing dependent health insurance benefits to individuals up to age 25, regardless of student status, and encourages states to enact legislation presenting master policy holders with an option to purchase such extended benefits for young individuals.

At least 20 states have passed similar legislation in recent years, including Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Washington.

Studies indicate that 30 percent of young adults between the ages of 19 and 29 are at risk of being uninsured. Most young adults lose dependent health insurance coverage under their parent's or guardian's policy at the age of 19, or when they graduate from college. While most parents cover their children or dependents through their employer, nearly 60 percent of these health plans do not cover young adults beyond 19 who are not enrolled in college.

The NCOIL Health, Long-Term Care & Health Retirement Issues Committee adopted the resolution by a large margin on July 11, followed by unanimous adoption by the Executive Committee on July 13. The resolution was amended during the July 11 Health Committee meeting to reflect 2008 state activity and to address cost-related issues.

The resolution is part of an active NCOIL effort to develop effective approaches to health insurance concerns, such as access, affordability, and transparency. On July 12, NCOIL sought to find such answers in a symposium entitled *State Health Innovations: What Works? What Doesn't?* Panel participants explored the major reform barriers and discussed the impacts of state initiatives, including individual mandates, employer pay-or-play provisions, high-risk pools and advancements in health information technology.

At a July 13 roundtable discussion, legislators affirmed a continued commitment to health insurance reform in areas not inhibited by federal preemptive measures such as ERISA, and spoke of forming a task force dedicated to review data, examine impacts and pursue new innovations.

The NCOIL Summer Meeting was held from July 10 through July 13 at the Marriot Marquis in New York City.

NCOIL is an organization of state legislators whose public policy concern is insurance legislation and regulation. Most legislators active in NCOIL either chair or are members of the committees responsible for insurance legislation in their respective state houses across the country.

For further details, please contact the NCOIL National Office at 518-687-0178.

# # #

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 7:23 AM
To: Irwin; Tom E (DNR); Rutherford; Marty K (DNR); Galvin; Patrick S (DOR); Balash; Joseph R (GOV)
Subject: Re: Best News Ever On In-State Gas

Nice comments- we like his thinking, he "gets it". Do enough of the other folks get it?
I'm in the Anchorage office in a few, give me a ring if you all have a minute to update me on all the balls in the air.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

From: "Irwin, Tom E (DNR)" <tom.irwin@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 07:00:31 -0800
To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>; Rutherford, Marty K (DNR)<marty.rutherford@alaska.gov>; Galvin, Patrick S (DOR)<patrick.galvin@alaska.gov>; Balash, Joseph R (GOV) <joe.balash@alaska.gov>
Subject: Fw: Best News Ever On In-State Gas

----- Original Message -----
From: jkauffman@gci.net <jkauffman@gci.net>
To: Irwin, Tom E (DNR)
Sent: Wed Jul 16 06:53:16 2008
Subject: Best News Ever On In-State Gas

Tom, Congratulations on the new energy plan just rolled out! It is finally time to see gas development open up in Cook inlet, this plan will be remembered as the keystone in Public/Private ventures in our State. To me, there is nothing better for the Public Interest than the State investing to make these kind of ventures successful. Reasonable returns for resource development for more parties (Producers, State, People, Industry, etc.) will drive the market to a strong economy. I love this plan as it makes the current producers irrelevant, if they want to stay in the past so be it. DNR may not be able to handle the flood of inquiries for exploration! Again thanks for the news!

----- Original Message -----
From: Irwin, Tom E (DNR) <mailto:tom.irwin@alaska.gov>
To: jkauffman@gci.net
Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2008 1:29 PM
Subject: RE: AGIA Soldotna

Jim, wanted to let you know I received your email and I appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts on such an important issue. Thank you! Tom

---

From: jkauffman@gci.net [mailto:jkauffman@gci.net]
Sent: Thursday, July 03, 2008 10:54 AM
To: Irwin, Tom E (DNR)
Subject: AGIA Soldotna

Commissioner Tom Irwin

Jim Kauffman

You spoke to me, if you remember, after the Soldotna AGIA meeting. I was glad to hear your passion in describing the three big needs before us. 1. The Big Line 2. In-State Gas 3. Cash Relief.

I could not agree more

The State is at a watershed moment that if we fail to navigate carefully all three of the objectives may be lost in endless litigation and political in fighting, which would delight some parties.

I have passed on your thank you to those pushing for in-State gas, but would suggest that Governor Palin is great position to sail through these rough waters. There seems to me to be a clear path that would take #3 Energy Relief Plan ($1,200) add to it #2 limited in-State plan and it equals a guarantee win for #1 being a Trans Canada unanimous victory in the big pipe.

Simply move now on In-State gas with a pipe that can give open access in Cook Inlet, Mat-Su, Glennallen--Beluga to Delta--. State 60% Trans Canada 10%. Trans Canada wins favor by providing gas to people of Alaska co-operating with ANGDA (state Corp.). Trans Canada's big line starts in Beluga and lets T.C. decide ultimate size customers will determine final plans. Mitsubishi Corp. may be a good customer from Glennallen South, let T.C. decide. Pipe size North of Delta, East of Delta T.C. can do it. Enstar bullet from Delta or whatever is best for Fairbanks. ANGDA's marketing plan is great, give them a chance to be involved.

If Governor Palin re-committed to In-State with T.C. as builder, ANGDA as a benefactor, State funds to bridge the gap for gas to Fairbanks, CNG to others etc. is much better than cash distribution. I want a good economy and local jobs, not just a bigger PFD and Energy Credit. My belief is that people would see this as Government for the people not just Government for the State Budget. This could benifit if it was before the vote.

Sincerely,

Jim Kauffman

Candidate for Senate District Q (Republican)

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 6:44 PM
To: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Cc: Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Goode; Kelly C (GOV)
Subject: Re: Port Authority Has No Involvement with BBIII Ad

Thanks kris

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

From: "Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 18:36:58 -0800
To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>; Mason, Janice L (GOV)<janice.mason@alaska.gov>
CC: Nizich, Michael A (GOV)<mike.nizich@alaska.gov>; Goode, Kelly C (GOV) <kelly.goode@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: Port Authority Has No Involvement with BBIII Ad

I can let them know.

----- Original Message -----
From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
To: Mason, Janice L (GOV)
Cc: Nizich, Michael A (GOV); Goode, Kelly C (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)
Sent: Wed Jul 16 18:22:14 2008
Subject: Re: Port Authority Has No Involvement with BBIII Ad

J- Would you let Bill Walker and Bert Cottle know I appreciate this clarification. Thanks

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 16:50:48 -0800
To: Sarah Palin<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
CC: Nizich, Michael A (GOV)<mike.nizich@alaska.gov>; Goode, Kelly C (GOV)<kelly.goode@alaska.gov>
Subject: FW: Port Authority Has No Involvement with BBIII Ad

FYI:

From: Bill Walker [mailto:bill-wwa@ak.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 4:37 PM
To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored); govenor@state.ak.us; Bunde, Con (LAA); Cowdery, John (LAA); Davis, Bettye J (LAA); Dyson, Fred (LAA); Ellis, Johnny (LAA); Elton, Kim S (LAA); French, Hollis (LAA); Green, Lyda N (LAA); Hoffman, Lyman F (LAA); Huggins, Charlie (LAA); Kookesh, Albert (LAA); McGuire, Lesil L (LAA); Olson, Donny (LAA); Stedman, Bert K (LAA); Stevens, Gary L (LAA); Therriault, Gene (LAA); Thomas, Joe (LAA); Wagoner, Tom (LAA); Wielechowski, Bill (LAA); Wilken, Gary R (LAA); Rep_Bob_Buch@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mike_Chenault@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Sharon_Cissna@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_John_Coghill@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Harry_Crawford@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Nancy_Dahlstrom@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Andrea_Doll@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mike_Doogan@legis.state.ak.us; 'Rep_'; Rep_Anna_Fairclough@legis.state.ak.us;

Rep_Richard_Foster@legis.state.ak.us; 'Rep_'; Rep_Berta_Gardner@legis.state.ak.us; 'Rep_Carl'; Rep_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_David_Guttenberg@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_John_Harris@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mike_Hawker@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Lindsey_Holmes@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Kyle_Johansen@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Craig_Johnson@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Reggie_Joule@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Scott_Kawasaki@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Wes_Keller@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mike_Kelly@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Beth_Kerttula@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Gabrielle_LeDoux@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Bob_Lynn@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Kevin_Meyer@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mary_Nelson@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mark_Neuman@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Kurt_Olson@legis.state.ak.us; jayramras@hotmail.com; Rep_Jay_Ramras@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Bob_Roses@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Woodie_Salmon@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Paul_Seaton@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Bill_Stoltze@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Bill_Thomas@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Peggy_Wilson@legis.state.ak.us; Irwin, Tom E (DNR); Rutherford, Marty K (DNR); Galvin, Patrick S (DOR)
Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Collins, Donna S (GOV); ltgov@state.ak.us; Balash, Joseph R (GOV); Davis, Marcia R (DOR); Heinze, Harold C (JPO); Gibson, Kurtis K (DNR); Banks, Kevin R (DNR)
Subject: Port Authority Has No Involvement with BBIII Ad

July 16, 2008

To:

Governor Sarah Palin

Members of the Alaska State Legislature

Commissioner Tom Irwin

Commissioner Pat Galvin

Deputy Commissioner Marty Rutherford

As a result of misinformation that is circulating about the Alaska Gasline Port Authority's (AGPA) involvement with the recent Backbone III (BBIII) ad, I felt it imperative to set the record straight. Please be assured that AGPA has not been a BBIII participant and was not involved in the formation, approval or financial sponsorship of the ad. AGPA was initially listed in the left-hand column of the ad. However, AGPA Chairman Bert Cottle immediately requested that AGPA's name be removed and you will note that AGPA is not listed in the latest version of the ad. Not one dime of AGPA funding has been used for the BBIII ad.

The only ads AGPA has been responsible for are the recent ads regarding its partnering with Mitsubishi Corporation and Sempra LNG. The purpose of these ads is to announce and celebrate these significant developments which have been in the making for a long, long time. AGPA has never stopped laboring to assemble all of the parts and pieces of the LNG project. With diligence, professionalism and nose-to-the-grindstone, we will continue in that vein.

I encourage each of you to contact me personally by email or phone (278-7000 office or 223-8530 cell) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this or any other AGPA related matter.

Regards,

Unknown

From: Bill Walker [bill-wwa@ak.net]

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 4:37 PM

To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored); govenor@state.ak.us; Bunde; Con (LAA); Cowdery; John (LAA); Davis; Bettye J (LAA); Dyson; Fred (LAA); Ellis; Johnny (LAA); Elton; Kim S (LAA); French; Hollis (LAA); Green; Lyda N (LAA); Hoffman; Lyman F (LAA); Huggins; Charlie (LAA); Kookesh; Albert (LAA); McGuire; Lesil L (LAA); Olson; Donny (LAA); Stedman; Bert K (LAA); Stevens; Gary L (LAA); Therriault; Gene (LAA); Thomas; Joe (LAA); Wagoner; Tom (LAA); Wielechowski; Bill (LAA); Wilken; Gary R (LAA); Rep_Bob_Buch@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mike_Chenault@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Sharon_Cissna@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_John_Coghill@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Harry_Crawford@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Nancy_Dahlstrom@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Andrea_Doll@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mike_Doogan@legis.state.ak.us; 'Rep_'; Rep_Anna_Fairclough@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Richard_Foster@legis.state.ak.us; 'Rep_'; Rep_Berta_Gardner@legis.state.ak.us; 'Rep_Carl'; Rep_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_David_Guttenberg@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_John_Harris@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mike_Hawker@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Lindsey_Holmes@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Kyle_Johansen@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Craig_Johnson@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Reggie_Joule@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Scott_Kawasaki@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Wes_Keller@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mike_Kelly@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Beth_Kerttula@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Gabrielle_LeDoux@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Bob_Lynn@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Kevin_Meyer@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mary_Nelson@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mark_Neuman@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Kurt_Olson@legis.state.ak.us; jayramras@hotmail.com; Rep_Jay_Ramras@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Bob_Roses@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Woodie_Salmon@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Paul_Seaton@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Bill_Stoltze@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Bill_Thomas@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Peggy_Wilson@legis.state.ak.us; Irwin; Tom E (DNR); Rutherford; Marty K (DNR); Galvin; Patrick S (DOR)

Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Collins; Donna S (GOV); ltgov@state.ak.us; Balash; Joseph R (GOV); Davis; Marcia R (DOR); Heinze; Harold C (JPO); Gibson; Kurtis K (DNR); Banks; Kevin R (DNR)

Subject: Port Authority Has No Involvement with BBIII Ad

July 16, 2008

To:

Governor Sarah Palin
Members of the Alaska State Legislature
Commissioner Tom Irwin
Commissioner Pat Galvin
Deputy Commissioner Marty Rutherford

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I encourage each of you to contact me personally by email or phone (278-7000 office or 223-8530 cell) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this or any other AGPA related matter.

Regards,

Bill Walker

Unknown

From: Ken & Connie Tarbox [tarbox@ptialaska.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 3:16 PM
To: Lloyd; Denby S (DFG)
Cc: Chenault; Mike (LAA); Wagoner; Tom (LAA); Senator_Thomas_Wagoner@legis.state.ak.us; Huggins; Charlie (LAA); Seaton; Paul (LAA); Larry Edfelt; Marcotte; Jim R (DFG); Hilsinger; John R (DFG); Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored); Stevens; Gary L (LAA); Swanton; Charles O (DFG)
Subject: Concern over potential illegal actions by ADF&G

Your prompt review of the attached letter would be appreciated. It is my concern that ADF&G continues to conduct itself in a manner that is potentially illegal under State law. I believe a full and open review of these matters by the Attorney General Office may be necessary to resolve them.

If the actions were in fact illegal then the administration in keeping with an open and transparent policy should acknowledge that fact.

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 4:20 PM
To: Nizich; Michael A (GOV)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)
Subject: Fw: Statements from Governor Palin and Colonel Audie Holloway

Fyi - and I've tried twice now to reach Walt, including on the 14th and again today. No answer. (Maybe he has caller ID and he is not choosing to hear from me? My question would be short and sweet: "Just want to hear it straight from you, why'd you choose to turn down ABC position to help serve rural AK?"

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 15:35:08 -0800
To: <jmoore@ktuu.com>; <mross@ktuu.com>
Subject: Statements from Governor Palin and Colonel Audie Holloway

From Governor Sarah Palin -

"It was evident that Walt's interest and abilities in the area of public safety could be better utilized if he could concentrate his efforts more closely on issues dealing with rampant alcohol problems in rural communities where there is great suffering. We recognized that there was an ideal opportunity for him to deal with bootlegging and other alcohol problems, as executive director of the Alcoholic Beverage Control, and we offered him that opportunity and that position. Unfortunately, he chose not to serve the state in this capacity. We are moving the Department of Public Safety forward under new leadership."

From Colonel Audie Holloway -

"I am supportive of the new commissioner and his intention to provide leadership and guidance to the Department of Public Safety. I have known Commissioner Kopp for several years and value the management skills he displayed during his tenure at the Kenai Police Department. The Alaska State Troopers will continue to provide the best public service possible to the citizens of Alaska - a priority of this administration."

Sharon Leighow
Deputy Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director

(907) 269-7450 Anchorage
(907) 465-4031 Juneau
(907) 240-7943 cell

Unknown

From: Ken & Connie Tarbox [tarbox@ptialaska.net]

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 4:00 PM

To: Lloyd; Denby S (DFG)

Cc: Swanton; Charles O (DFG); Stevens; Gary L (LAA); Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored); Hilsinger; John R (DFG); Marcotte; Jim R (DFG); Larry Edfelt; Seaton; Paul (LAA); Huggins; Charlie (LAA); Senator_Thomas_Wagoner@legis.state.ak.us; Wagoner; Tom (LAA); Chenault; Mike (LAA)

Subject: Kasilof River sockeye salmon personal use and sport fishery expansion.

Dear Commissioner,

Today ADF&G announced that the bag and possession limit for Kasilof River sockeye salmon was increased to 6 fish and that the personal use fishing area was expanded.

In the justification it states ADF&G has made a projection that the goal of 250,000 sockeye salmon would be exceeded. I find it interesting to use this number since the OEG is 300,000 and the turn on for the terminal fishery is 275,000. It would appear ADF&G is playing games with the numbers to avoid the terminal fishery opening. There is no way the Department can forecast at this point in the run the difference between 250,000 and 275,000 fish.

In addition, I called the commercial fisheries staff at the Soldotna office and was informed they made no such projection. In fact, the commercial fishery has not been opened in the terminal area or the set net fishery expanded to 24 hour fishing or no windows to reduce Kasilof sockeye salmon escapement. In contrast, the commercial fishery was restricted on an extra period to one half mile.

Therefore it appears again that ADF&G is not co-ordinating actions and that the actions of the sport fish division are unfounded based on the data. A terminal commercial fishery and expanded set net fishery may in fact slow the escapement rate into the Kasilof so that the goal will not be exceeded.

Given this action in the sport fishery I would expect that the terminal commercial fishery will be opened and more liberal set net fishing time given. This of course will increase the chinook harvest in these fisheries. By regulation when ADF&G projects it will exceed the goal the terminal fishey may open and I expect it would since the commercial fishery has a priority on sockeye salmon.

I must admit that as a past fishery manager of UCI this is one of the poorest decisions I have seen. It was done without thinking about how it would impact the other fisheries and of course was done without strict scientific estimates of the final escapement numbers. There is no way to project going over the goal at this point in the absence of fishing the terminal area or more set net fishing time.

Historically, the staff of ADF&G waited until the goal was actually going to be exceeded after the majority of fishing time was completed. This is what the Board of Fisheries intended and has stated numerous times. Yet ADF&G in recent years feels it can state a failure to manage (going over the goal) without trying to manage with the exisitng fisheries to meet the goal. In fact, at the recent 2008 Board of Fisheries meeting the Board was displeased when ADF&G opened the terminal fishery based on a forecast a few years ago.

Again, your staff appears to be making unfounded and potential illegal decisions without regard to regulations or the consequences of those decisions.

I feel that you, as Commissioner, must make significant and real changes to the way ADF&G conducts itself. The recent performance at the legislative hearing, mistakes in emergency order authority, escapement goals being set without following existing regulations, and now inseason management without co-ordination with other divisions all speak to an organization in trouble. In fact, in UCI the staff is so polarized by the lack of leadership that it is dysfunctional at all levels.

Unknown

From: Irwin, Tom E (DNR) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=TEIRWIN]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 1:48 PM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Subject: Re: Governor's Choice!

Thanks for the quick response. I will be able to share in a few days what this is about, probably when you come to Juneau. By the way Marty chose 8. She will enjoy this also. See you at Sunday's picnic.

You are doing an absolutely great job! God bless. Tom

----- Original Message -----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

To: Irwin, Tom E (DNR)

Sent: Wed Jul 16 12:57:24 2008

Subject: Re: Governor's Choice!

I just polled the room:

21, so says this office full of youth basketball players who have graced me with a visit!

------Original Message------

From: Tom Irwin

To: Governor Sarah Palin

Sent: Jul 16, 2008 12:10 PM

Subject: Fw: Governor's Choice!

We are working on something fun/special. I can't tell you right now but you can trust me. Out of the numbers below would you have a favorite? Thanks. Tom

----- Original Message -----

From: Howard, Kerry M (DFG)

To: Irwin, Tom E (DNR); Lefebvre, Richard A (DNR)

Sent: Wed Jul 16 11:55:15 2008

Subject: Governor's Choice!

Tom: The numbers the Governor can choose from are: 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 21, 23,

25, 26, or 27. Let me know the choice!- kmh

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 12:57 PM
To: Irwin; Tom E (DNR)
Subject: Re: Governor's Choice!

I just polled the room:

21, so says this office full of youth basketball players who have graced me with a visit!

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From: Tom Irwin

To: Governor Sarah Palin

Sent: Jul 16, 2008 12:10 PM

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From: Howard, Kerry M (DFG)

To: Irwin, Tom E (DNR); Lefebvre, Richard A (DNR)

Sent: Wed Jul 16 11:55:15 2008

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Tom: The numbers the Governor can choose from are: 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 21, 23, 25, 26, or 27. Let me know the choice!- kmh

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 2:03 PM
To: Ruaro; Randall P (GOV); Nizich; Michael A (GOV)
Subject: Fw: Metlakatla

Fyi:

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 13:55:33 -0800
To: ExternalEmailgsp<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: Metlakatla

Dear Governor Palin, We will proceed. Thankyou Talis

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com [mailto:gov.sarah@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 1:53 PM
To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW)
Cc: Nizich, Michael A (GOV)
Subject: Re: Metlakatla

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 10:57:55 -0800
To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
CC: Nizich, Michael A (GOV)<mike.nizich@alaska.gov>
Subject: Metlakatla

Dear Governor Palin,

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Talis

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 1:54 PM
To: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Nizich; Michael A (GOV)
Subject: Fw: reworked your comments just a bit

Reworked:

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 13:49:03 -0800
To: ExternalEmailgsp<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: reworked your comments just a bit

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com [mailto:gov.sarah@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 1:47 PM
To: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Fw: Draft: Re: Channel 2

We're waiting to get Audie's comment attached to this:

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 20:55:22 +0000
To: K Perry<kris.perry@alaska.gov>
Subject: Draft: Re: Channel 2
Draft

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 11:31:49 -0800
To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: Channel 2
Governor –

Jason Moore would like to talk with you today about DPS. They have been asking for an interview since Sunday.

Sharon Leighow
Deputy Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director

(907) 269-7450 Anchorage
(907) 465-4031 Juneau
(907) 240-7943 cell

Unknown

From: Nizich, Michael A (GOV) [mike.nizich@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 2:27 PM
To: gov.palin@yahoo.com
Subject: Statement

Chuck will be getting the office a statement from Audie in the next 15 minutes.

Unknown

From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=KYPERRY]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 4:51 PM
To: 'Sarah Palin'
Cc: Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Goode; Kelly C (GOV)
Subject: FW: Port Authority Has No Involvement with BBIII Ad
Importance: High

FYI:

From: Bill Walker [mailto:bill-wwa@ak.net]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 4:37 PM
To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored); govenor@state.ak.us; Bunde, Con (LAA); Cowdery, John (LAA); Davis, Bettye J (LAA); Dyson, Fred (LAA); Ellis, Johnny (LAA); Elton, Kim S (LAA); French, Hollis (LAA); Green, Lyda N (LAA); Hoffman, Lyman F (LAA); Huggins, Charlie (LAA); Kookesh, Albert (LAA); McGuire, Lesil L (LAA); Olson, Donny (LAA); Stedman, Bert K (LAA); Stevens, Gary L (LAA); Therriault, Gene (LAA); Thomas, Joe (LAA); Wagoner, Tom (LAA); Wielechowski, Bill (LAA); Wilken, Gary R (LAA); Rep_Bob_Buch@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mike_Chenault@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Sharon_Cissna@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_John_Coghill@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Harry_Crawford@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Nancy_Dahlstrom@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Andrea_Doll@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mike_Doogan@legis.state.ak.us; 'Rep_'; Rep_Anna_Fairclough@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Richard_Foster@legis.state.ak.us; 'Rep_'; Rep_Berta_Gardner@legis.state.ak.us; 'Rep_Carl'; Rep_Max_Gruenberg@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_David_Guttenberg@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_John_Harris@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mike_Hawker@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Lindsey_Holmes@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Kyle_Johansen@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Craig_Johnson@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Reggie_Joule@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Scott_Kawasaki@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Wes_Keller@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mike_Kelly@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Beth_Kerttula@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Gabrielle_LeDoux@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Bob_Lynn@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Kevin_Meyer@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mary_Nelson@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Mark_Neuman@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Kurt_Olson@legis.state.ak.us; jayramras@hotmail.com; Rep_Jay_Ramras@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Bob_Roses@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Ralph_Samuels@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Woodie_Salmon@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Paul_Seaton@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Bill_Stoltze@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Bill_Thomas@legis.state.ak.us; Rep_Peggy_Wilson@legis.state.ak.us; Irwin, Tom E (DNR); Rutherford, Marty K (DNR); Galvin, Patrick S (DOR)
Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Collins, Donna S (GOV); ltgov@state.ak.us; Balash, Joseph R (GOV); Davis, Marcia R (DOR); Heinze, Harold C (JPO); Gibson, Kurtis K (DNR); Banks, Kevin R (DNR)
Subject: Port Authority Has No Involvement with BBIII Ad

July 16, 2008

To:

Governor Sarah Palin
Members of the Alaska State Legislature
Commissioner Tom Irwin
Commissioner Pat Galvin
Deputy Commissioner Marty Rutherford

As a result of misinformation that is circulating about the Alaska Gasline Port Authority's

(AGPA) involvement with the recent Backbone III (BBIII) ad, I felt it imperative to set the record straight. Please be assured that AGPA has not been a BBIII participant and was not involved in the formation, approval or financial sponsorship of the ad. AGPA was initially listed in the left-hand column of the ad. However, AGPA Chairman Bert Cottle immediately requested that AGPA's name be removed and you will note that AGPA is not listed in the latest version of the ad. Not one dime of AGPA funding has been used for the BBIII ad.

The only ads AGPA has been responsible for are the recent ads regarding its partnering with Mitsubishi Corporation and Sempra LNG. The purpose of these ads is to announce and celebrate these significant developments which have been in the making for a long, long time. AGPA has never stopped laboring to assemble all of the parts and pieces of the LNG project. With diligence, professionalism and nose-to-the-grindstone, we will continue in that vein.

I encourage each of you to contact me personally by email or phone (278-7000 office or 223-8530 cell) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this or any other AGPA related matter.

Regards,

Bill Walker

Unknown

From: John Katz [jwkatz@ALASKADC.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 9:45 AM
To: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Cc: Joe Balash; K Perry; M Nizich; Sharon Leighow; Russ Kelly
Subject: Re: ANWR/Congressman Ralph Hall -- CONFIDENTIAL/ATTORNEY CLIENTPRIVILEGE

Thanks for getting back to me. I'll convey the draft statement, as amended by the sentence I suggested in the second email Privileged or Personal Material Redacted.

John W. Katz
Director of State/Federal Relations
and Special Counsel to the Governor
jwkatz@alaskadc.org
(202)624-5858

>>> On 7/16/2008 at 1:36 PM, in message <420642854-1216229904-cardhu_decombobulator_blackberry.rim.net-743857993-@bxe184.bisx.prod.on.blackberry>, <gov.sarah@yahoo.com> wrote:

I do choose to support this, if for no other reason to prove we're willing to take on the strict oversight of anwr development - the question of environmental oversight has been an issue with the naysayers. Thanks

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

From: "John Katz" <jwkatz@ALASKADC.org>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 12:42:23 -0400
To: Sarah Palin<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
CC: Joseph Balash<joe.balash@alaska.gov>; Kris Perry<kris.perry@alaska.gov>; Mike Nizich<Mike.Nizich@alaska.gov>; Russ Kelly<rkelly@ALASKADC.org>
Subject: ANWR/Congressman Ralph Hall -- CONFIDENTIAL/ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Congressman Ralph Hall (Republican, Texas) = called this morning to seek your support for draft legislation (pasted = below) that would convey the Coastal Plain of ANWR to the State of Alaska = in order to facilitate oil and gas development there. The Congressman is working closely with Congressman Young = on the bill and says that he has discussed it personally with President = Bush, who would sign the legislation if it gets to his desk. =

I was non-committal pending this communicat= ion to you. There is no question that the Palin administration = supports responsible oil and gas development in the Coastal Plain.&nbs= p; Privileged or P
Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

The legislation would also require a 50/50 = revenue share between the State and federal governments and would impose a = prohibition on oil exports. With the exception of a = few Alaskans, most people believe that these requirements are = inevitable in any ANWR bill that has a chance of passing.

Recommendation: I don't know whether the following would be completely = acceptable to Mr. Hall, but I would recommend the statement below in = response -

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Privileged o I'll stand by for further guidance from you.

P.S.
Mr. Hall would like to introduce his bill = tomorrow but said that he could wait until next week.

[Discussion Draft]
[DISCUSSION DRAFT]
110TH CONGRESS
2D = SESSION H. R. ll
To require transfer of the 1002 Area of Alaska to the = State of Alaska,
and for other purposes.
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATI= VES
Mr. HALL of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred = to the
Committee on lllllllllll
A BILL
To require transfer of = the 1002 Area of Alaska to the State
of Alaska, and for other purposes.<= BR>1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa2
tives of the = United States of America in Congress assembled,
3 SECTION 1. SHORT = TITLE.
4 This Act may be cited as the "New Resources for
5 Domestic = Consumption Act of 2008".
6 SEC. 2. PURPOSE.
7 The purpose of this = Act is to provide for the expedi8
tious development of oil, natural = gas, and other resources
9 of the 1002 Area of Alaska by transferring = to the State
VerDate Oct 09 2002 15:13 Jul 15, 2008 Jkt 000000 PO 00000 = Frm 00001 Fmt 6652 Sfmt 6201
C:\TEMP\HALLTX~1.XML HOLCPC
July 15, 2008 = (3:13 p.m.)
F:\M10\HALLTX\HALLTX_038.XML
f:\V10\071508\071508.219.xml= (410237|6)
2
[Discussion Draft]
1 of Alaska all right, title, = and interest of the United States
2 in and to such area.
3 SEC. 3. = TRANSFER OF 1002 AREA TO STATE OF ALASKA.
4 (a) IN GENERAL.-Notwithstand= ing any other provi5
sion of law, the Secretary of the Interior shall = within 30
6 days after the date of enactment of this Act transfer = to
7 the State of Alaska all right, title, and interest of the
8 = United States in and to the 1002 Area of Alaska, subject

9 to the = condition in subsection (b).
10 (b) CONDITION.-As a condition of any = transfer
11 under this section, the Secretary shall require the = State
12 of Alaska to pay to the United States 50 percent of all
13 = amounts received by the State of Alaska as a result of
14 development = of oil, natural gas, and other natural re15
sources of the 1002 Area of = Alaska.
16 SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON EXPORT OF OIL.
17 No oil produced = in the 1002 Area of Alaska after the
18 date of any transfer under = section 3 may be exported from
19 the United States.
20 SEC. 5. 1002 = AREA OF ALASKA DEFINED.
21 In this Act the term "1002 Area of Alaska" = means
22 the area described in appendix I to part 37 of title 50,
23 = Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on July 14,
24 2008, = popularly known as the Coastal Plain of the Arctic
25 National Wildlife = Refuge.
VerDate Oct 09 2002 15:13 Jul 15, 2008 Jkt 000000 PO 00000 Frm = 00002 Fmt 6652 Sfmt 6201
C:\TEMP\HALLTX~1.XML HOLCPC
July 15, 2008 = (3:13 p.m.)
F:\M10\HALLTX\HALLTX_038.XML
f:\V10\071508\071508.219.xml= (410237|6)

John W. = Katz
Director of = State/Federal Relations
and Special = Counsel to the Governor
=jwkatz@alaskadc.org
(202)624-5858<= /FONT>

Unknown

From:	Mason, Janice L (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JLMASON]
Sent:	Wednesday, July 16, 2008 12:41 PM
To:	Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)
Cc:	Rintala; Jessalynn F (GOV)
Subject:	RE: Ak_History_Facts

The Governor will not be in Fairbanks at 1:00 p.m. I think if we sent a letter and flag certificate that will be fine. Thanks, Janice

-----Original Message-----

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 11:34 AM

To: Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Rintala, Jessalynn F (GOV)

Subject: FW: Ak_History_Facts

Ladies,

This is one of our Killed In Action soldiers. I did not send the "canned" message maybe the Governor wants to attend??? Janice do you want to respond to her??? We are already sent a letter and flag with cert.

Donna

-----Original Message-----

From: Web

Unknown

From: John Katz [jwkatz@ALASKADC.org]

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 8:52 AM

To: Sarah Palin

Cc: Joseph Balash; Kevin Banks; Kris Perry; Marty Rutherford; Mike Nizich; Sharon W (GOV) Leighow; Tom Irwin; Russ Kelly

Subject: NPRA Record of Decision/Fall Lease Sale

There are no surprises in this announcement, but the final Record of Decision does set the stage for a major lease sale by the BLM this fall.

While perhaps coincidental, the BLM announcement occurs at a time when the Democratic leadership in the House is seeking to feature NPR-A as an essential element of its energy policy (announced last week). Critics counter that the BLM is already doing everything possible to lease acreage in NPR-A on an expeditious basis.

John W. Katz
Director of State/Federal Relations
and Special Counsel to the Governor
jwkatz@alaskadc.org
(202)624-5858

>>> On 7/16/2008 at 12:16 PM, in message <OF2CB5D1B8.1112EF5A-ON85257488.0059438D-85257488.00596E96@cfa.gov>, <Ashley_Banister@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

For Release: July 16, 2008 Contact: Sharon Wilson/Ruth McCoard
(907) 271-5555
Celia Boddington (202) 208-6913
Frank Quimby (202) 208-6416

Record of Decision Sets Stage for Major Lease Sale in National Petroleum Reserve Alaska

In a Record of Decision issued today, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced that it will make land available for oil and gas leasing in the northeast portion of the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A).

"This action sets the stage for a major lease sale this fall. This is welcome news at a time when Americans are paying record prices at the pump," said C. Stephen Allred, Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals, in signing the ROD.

At the same lease sale, the BLM also plans to offer land in the northwest portion of the NPR-A.

"The rapid increase in energy costs facing our nation is driven by a

worldwide imbalance in energy supply and demand," Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne said. "Developing the NPR-A in an environmentally sound manner will contribute to our domestic oil and natural gas supplies. Together with new production from other offshore and onshore areas, these increased supplies will help stabilize energy costs."

The lands made available for leasing under plans for NPR-A northeast and northwest could result in a much as 8.4 billion barrels of oil being developed. The lands could also provide trillions of cubic feet of natural gas for shipment to North American markets through gas pipelines currently in the planning stages.

"This decision provides for the protection of high value wildlife, including waterfowl and caribou, and meets the subsistence needs of North Slope residents while making lands with oil and gas potential available for leasing," said BLM-Alaska State Director Tom Lonnie.

The plan includes protections for the polar bear, including requirements to consider impacts on areas used by polar bears for denning. Additionally, with the listing of the polar bear the agency will continue to work closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on future oil and gas activities.

According to the Record of Decision, the BLM defers leasing for 10 years on land currently unavailable for leasing north and east of Teshekpuk Lake.

The Record of Decision for the Northeast NPR-A Final Supplemental Plan can be reached through a link on BLM-Alaska's home page at www.blm.gov/ak.

The BLM, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages more land - 258 million surface acres than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is in 12 Western states, including 80.8 million surface acres in Alaska. The Bureau also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on the public lands.

# # #

Ashley Banister
Special Assistant, Alaska Affairs
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, MS-6020
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-4177
(202) 219-0229-Fax

Unknown

From: John Katz [jwkatz@ALASKADC.org]

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 9:06 AM

To: Sarah Palin

Cc: Joseph Balash; Kris Perry; Mike Nizich; Russ Kelly

Subject: Congressman Hall/Chapter 2 -- CONFIDENTIAL/ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Sorry to bother you again. After sending my previous email, I received the communication pasted below from Congressman Hall's energy staff person.

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

If you do decide to submit a statement, we could add a sentence at the end of the previous draft along the lines of -

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

==

Hi, John - I spoke to Mr. Hall and he said he'd like to speak to the Governor if she had time in her schedule, but understands if she's busy. Either way, he would appreciate a letter of support for the bill and a statement that he could issue to the press along the lines of how quickly development would start once the land was transferred.

Thanks!

Elizabeth

Elizabeth Stack

Senior Policy Advisor

Rep. Ralph M. Hall (TX-04)

Republican Professional Staff

Committee on Science and Technology

394 Ford House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

p) 202-225-6371

f) 202-226-0113

John W. Katz
Director of State/Federal Relations
and Special Counsel to the Governor
jwkatz@alaskadc.org
(202)624-5858

Unknown

From: John Katz [jwkatz@ALASKADC.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 8:42 AM
To: Sarah Palin
Cc: Joseph Balash; Kris Perry; Mike Nizich; Russ Kelly
Subject: ANWR/Congressman Ralph Hall -- CONFIDENTIAL/ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Congressman Ralph Hall (Republican, Texas) called this morning to seek your support for draft legislation (pasted below) that would convey the Coastal Plain of ANWR to the State of Alaska in order to facilitate oil and gas development there. The Congressman is working closely with Congressman Young on the bill and says that he has discussed it personally with President Bush, who would sign the legislation if it gets to his desk.

I was non-committal pending this communication to you. There is no question that the Palin administration supports responsible oil and gas development in the Coastal Plain. Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

The legislation would also require a 50/50 revenue share between the State and federal governments and would impose a prohibition on oil exports. With the exception of a few Alaskans, most people believe that these requirements are inevitable in any ANWR bill that has a chance of passing.

Recommendation: I don't know whether the following would be completely acceptable to Mr. Hall, but I would recommend the statement below in response -

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Privi I'll stand by for further guidance from you.

P.S.
Mr. Hall would like to introduce his bill tomorrow but said that he could wait until next week.

[Discussion Draft]
[DISCUSSION DRAFT]
110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION H. R. ll
To require transfer of the 1002 Area of Alaska to the State of Alaska,
and for other purposes.
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Mr. HALL of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
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A BILL

To require transfer of the 1002 Area of Alaska to the State
of Alaska, and for other purposes.
1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa2
tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.
4 This Act may be cited as the "New Resources for
5 Domestic Consumption Act of 2008".
6 SEC. 2. PURPOSE.
7 The purpose of this Act is to provide for the expedi8
tious development of oil, natural gas, and other resources
9 of the 1002 Area of Alaska by transferring to the State
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July 15, 2008 (3:13 p.m.)
F:\M10\HALLTX\HALLTX_038.XML
f:\V10\071508\071508.219.xml (410237|6)
2
[Discussion Draft]
1 of Alaska all right, title, and interest of the United States
2 in and to such area.
3 SEC. 3. TRANSFER OF 1002 AREA TO STATE OF ALASKA.
4 (a) IN GENERAL.-Notwithstanding any other provi5
sion of law, the Secretary of the Interior shall within 30
6 days after the date of enactment of this Act transfer to
7 the State of Alaska all right, title, and interest of the
8 United States in and to the 1002 Area of Alaska, subject
9 to the condition in subsection (b).
10 (b) CONDITION.-As a condition of any transfer
11 under this section, the Secretary shall require the State
12 of Alaska to pay to the United States 50 percent of all
13 amounts received by the State of Alaska as a result of
14 development of oil, natural gas, and other natural re15
sources of the 1002 Area of Alaska.
16 SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON EXPORT OF OIL.
17 No oil produced in the 1002 Area of Alaska after the
18 date of any transfer under section 3 may be exported from
19 the United States.
20 SEC. 5. 1002 AREA OF ALASKA DEFINED.
21 In this Act the term "1002 Area of Alaska" means
22 the area described in appendix I to part 37 of title 50,
23 Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on July 14,
24 2008, popularly known as the Coastal Plain of the Arctic
25 National Wildlife Refuge.
VerDate Oct 09 2002 15:13 Jul 15, 2008 Jkt 000000 PO 00000 Frm 00002 Fmt 6652 Sfmt 6201
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John W. Katz
Director of State/Federal Relations
and Special Counsel to the Governor
jwkatz@alaskadc.org
(202)624-5858

Unknown

From: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=SWLEIGHOW]

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 11:32 AM

To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'

Subject: Channel 2

Governor –

Jason Moore would like to talk with you today about DPS. They have been asking for an interview since Sunday.

Sharon Leighow
Deputy Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director

(907) 269-7450 Anchorage
(907) 465-4031 Juneau
(907) 240-7943 cell

Unknown

From:	Mason, Janice L (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JLMASON]
Sent:	Wednesday, July 16, 2008 5:46 PM
To:	Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored)
Cc:	Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Colberg; Talis J (LAW); Balash; Joseph R (GOV); Irwin; Tom E (DNR); Galvin; Patrick S (DOR)
Subject:	FW: letter
Attachments:	Document.pdf

Document.pdf (406 KB)

Please find letter dated July 17, 2008 that was just received via email from Mayor Whitaker in response to the letter he received from the Attorney General. The signed letter is attached.

Dear Attorney General Colberg:

Thank you for your letter dated July 10, 2008. The Fairbanks North Star Borough sincerely appreciates Governor Palin's commitment to finding solutions to Alaska's energy crisis.

Your letter suggests that your office has taken, at most, a purely advisory role with regard to the pricing of cook Inlet natural gas (CI gas). You state that there has been "no action" and "no decision." Although it may be true that the State's intervention in various regulatory proceedings is not the only factor behind cheap CI gas, there is no question that your office has consistently advocated for a non-market price under the public interest pretext of protecting Anchorage "domestic supply needs."

Our point is that this advocacy, apart from anything else the State is doing with respect to CI gas, runs directly counter to Article VIII of our Constitution.

But your office's regulator advocacy is not our only complaint. We also have legal concerns regarding 11 AAC 03.010(e), a regulation that prohibits export of royalty CI gas absent a finding regarding intrastate (i.e., Anchorage) demand. This regulation clearly does not maximize the return on the state's royalty gas. Similarly, approval of the sale of royalty gas to ML&P at excessively low prices runs counter to the Constitution and statute. And there are other examples where state action runs directly counter to constitutional and statutory requirements.

If the State were truly committed to maximizing gas royalties, it would advocate for a market price for CI gas. There's no doubt that a higher return on CI gas would directly stimulate more private investment, exploration and production in Cook Inlet than artificial price suppression combined with leveraged agreements with the producers.

You note that Fairbanks may be a beneficiary of below-market CI gas. Whether or not

Fairbanks receives such de minimis benefit does not change the legal reality that the State's advocacy and other actions regarding CI gas are ripe for legal challenge.

Nevertheless, as long as there is positive movement toward a more equal distribution of the state's energy resources, we remain committed to working with the Administration and legislators on remedying the disparate impact that Alaska's energy crisis has on the Interior.

Sincerely, Jim Whitaker, Mayor

Cc: Governor Sarah Palin

Commissioner Tom Irwin

Commissioner Patrick Galvin

State of Alaska Legislators

Fairbanks North Star Borough

Office of the Mayor

809 Pioneer Road P.O. Box 71267 Fairbanks, Alaska 99707-1267 907/459-1300
Fax 907/459-1102
Email mayor@co.fairbanks.ak.us

July 17, 2008

The Honorable Attorney General Talis Colberg
P. O. Box 110300
Juneau, AK 99811-0300

Dear Attorney General Colberg:

Thank you for your letter dated July 10, 2008. The Fairbanks North Star Borough sincerely appreciates Governor Palin's commitment to finding solutions to Alaska's energy crisis.

Your letter suggests that your office has taken, at most, a purely advisory role with regard to the pricing of Cook Inlet natural gas (CI gas). You state that there has been "no action" and "no decision." Although it may be true that the State's intervention in various regulatory proceedings is not the only factor behind cheap CI gas, there is no question that your office has consistently advocated for a non-market price under the public interest pretext of protecting Anchorage "domestic supply needs."

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Nevertheless, as long as there is positive movement toward a more equal distribution of the state's energy resources, we remain committed to working with the Administration and legislators on remedying the disparate impact that Alaska's energy crisis has on the Interior.

Sincerely,

Jim Whitaker, Mayor

JW:csm
cc: Governor Sarah Palin
Commissioner Tom Irwin
Commissioner Patrick Galvin
State of Alaska Legislators

Unknown

From: Colberg, Talis J (LAW) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=TJCOLBERG]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 3:35 PM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Cc: Nizich; Michael A (GOV)
Subject: FW: Exxon Valdez litigation

Dear Governor Palin,

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted Talis

From: Colberg, Talis J (LAW)
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 3:27 PM
To: Gara, Les (LAA)
Subject: FW: Exxon Valdez litigation

Dear Rep. Gara,
As you can see below, my staff has investigated this with plaintiffs, and while we are in constant contact with them and assisting them, (including again this afternoon) we do not believe an amicus is a useful option at this point. Thankyou for your inquiry. Talis Colberg

---

From: Tillery, Craig J (LAW)
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 3:19 PM
To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW)
Cc: Grace, Joanne M (LAW)
Subject: Exxon Valdez litigation

You asked whether the State of Alaska could and should file an amicus brief in response to the recent submission by private plaintiffs in the Exxon Valdez litigation, to the U.S. Supreme Court, relating to Rule 42.1 and interest on the judgment. First, there is no procedure that allows for such a submission, however, it is certainly possible to file a motion with the Court asking that leave be granted to file an amicus and possible that such a motion might be granted. More importantly, however, this is not something that we would recommend. We have been in contact with counsel for the private plaintiffs since the verdict was issued regarding this and other potential post verdict concerns. It is their view, concurred in by our own Supreme Court counsel, that formal state participation at this point would not be appropriate. We have taken, and will continue to take, other steps to facilitate counsel's efforts to have their clients paid timely and in full. In sum, Alaska could file a motion for leave to file an amicus on this matter, but it should not.

Craig J. Tillery
Deputy Attorney General
Alaska Department of Law
1031 W. 4th Avenue, Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 269-5200
craig.tillery@alaska.gov

Please note that my email address has changed to craig.tillery@alaska.gov

Unknown

From: Mason, Janice L (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JLMASON]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 2:13 PM
To: Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Nizich; Michael A (GOV)
Subject: RE: Gasline

Governor - You will take the Caravan from ANC to Fairbanks at approx. 4:00 p.m. (after ANC picnic) on Saturday, July 19 so that you can attend dinner w/Congressman Boenher and staff. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m. - Pikes Landing. What staff would you like to accompany you in Caravan and at the Dinner -

On Sunday, July 20 - The Fairbanks Picnic is from 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Flight from Fairbanks to Juneau - 5:00 pm - 8:32 p.m. All Flights Change planes in Anchorage.

Or take Caravan from Fairbanks to ANC on Sunday, July 20 after picnic and take Monday, July 21 flight to JNU - Depart ANC - 8:00 a.m. Arrive JNU - 9:47 a.m.

Please let me know what flights you would prefer. We have not discussed return flights but the consensus is that you would stay in JNU through Wed., July 23 and then if you want to return to ANC for the weekend we would have you return to JNU on either Sunday, July 27 or Monday, July 28 as the Senate will be voting on Monday, July 28.

Thanks, Janice

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 10:18 AM

To: Nizich, Michael A (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

Subject: Re: Gasline

J- pls get me to Juneau for monday's leggies' actions

----- Original Message -----

From: Nizich, Michael A (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

Sent: Wed Jul 16 08:49:32 2008

Subject: RE: Gasline

Hannah will get something set up, Janice is on the plane heading to Anchorage. What time works for you?

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 8:40 AM

To: Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Nizich, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

Subject: Gasline

I need an AGIA update early today. Pls sched that and gather those who need to participate.

Unknown

From: John Katz [jwkatz@ALASKADC.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 9:45 AM
To: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Cc: Joe Balash; K Perry; M Nizich; Sharon Leighow; Russ Kelly
Subject: Re: ANWR/Congressman Ralph Hall -- CONFIDENTIAL/ATTORNEY CLIENTPRIVILEGE

Thanks for getting back to me. I'll convey the draft statement, as amended by the sentence I suggested in the second email Privileged or Personal Material Redacted.

John W. Katz
Director of State/Federal Relations
and Special Counsel to the Governor
jwkatz@alaskadc.org
(202)624-5858

>>> On 7/16/2008 at 1:36 PM, in message <420642854-1216229904-cardhu_decombobulator_blackberry.rim.net-743857993-@bxe184.bisx.prod.on.blackberry>, <gov.sarah@yahoo.com> wrote:

I do choose to support this, if for no other reason to prove we're willing to take on the strict oversight of anwr development - the question of environmental oversight has been an issue with the naysayers. Thanks

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

From: "John Katz" <jwkatz@ALASKADC.org>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 12:42:23 -0400
To: Sarah Palin<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
CC: Joseph Balash<joe.balash@alaska.gov>; Kris Perry<kris.perry@alaska.gov>; Mike Nizich<Mike.Nizich@alaska.gov>; Russ Kelly<rkelly@ALASKADC.org>
Subject: ANWR/Congressman Ralph Hall -- CONFIDENTIAL/ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Congressman Ralph Hall (Republican, Texas) = called this morning to seek your support for draft legislation (pasted = below) that would convey the Coastal Plain of ANWR to the State of Alaska = in order to facilitate oil and gas development there. The Congressman is working closely with Congressman Young = on the bill and says that he has discussed it personally with President = Bush, who would sign the legislation if it gets to his desk. =

I was non-committal pending this communicat= ion to you. There is no question that the Palin administration = supports responsible oil and gas development in the Coastal Plain.&nbs= p; Privileged or P
Privileged or Personal Material Redacted
=

The legislation would also require a 50/50 = revenue share between the State and federal governments and would impose a = prohibition on oil exports. With the exception of a = few Alaskans, most people believe that these requirements are = inevitable in any ANWR bill that has a chance of passing.

Recommendation: I don't know whether the following would be completely = acceptable to Mr. Hall, but I would recommend the statement below in = response -

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Privileged or I'll stand by for further guidance from you.

P.S.
Mr. Hall would like to introduce his bill = tomorrow but said that he could wait until next week.

[Discussion Draft]
[DISCUSSION DRAFT]
110TH CONGRESS
2D = SESSION H. R. ll
To require transfer of the 1002 Area of Alaska to the = State of Alaska,
and for other purposes.
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATI= VES
Mr. HALL of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred = to the
Committee on llllllllllll
A BILL
To require transfer of = the 1002 Area of Alaska to the State
of Alaska, and for other purposes.<= BR>1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa2
tives of the = United States of America in Congress assembled,
3 SECTION 1. SHORT = TITLE.
4 This Act may be cited as the "New Resources for
5 Domestic = Consumption Act of 2008".
6 SEC. 2. PURPOSE.
7 The purpose of this = Act is to provide for the expedi8
tious development of oil, natural = gas, and other resources
9 of the 1002 Area of Alaska by transferring = to the State
VerDate Oct 09 2002 15:13 Jul 15, 2008 Jkt 000000 PO 00000 = Frm 00001 Fmt 6652 Sfmt 6201
C:\TEMP\HALLTX~1.XML HOLCPC
July 15, 2008 = (3:13 p.m.)
F:\M10\HALLTX\HALLTX_038.XML
f:\V10\071508\071508.219.xml= (410237|6)
2
[Discussion Draft]
1 of Alaska all right, title, = and interest of the United States
2 in and to such area.
3 SEC. 3. = TRANSFER OF 1002 AREA TO STATE OF ALASKA.
4 (a) IN GENERAL.-Notwithstand= ing any other provi5
sion of law, the Secretary of the Interior shall = within 30
6 days after the date of enactment of this Act transfer = to
7 the State of Alaska all right, title, and interest of the
8 = United States in and to the 1002 Area of Alaska, subject

9 to the = condition in subsection (b).
10 (b) CONDITION.-As a condition of any = transfer
11 under this section, the Secretary shall require the = State
12 of Alaska to pay to the United States 50 percent of all
13 = amounts received by the State of Alaska as a result of
14 development = of oil, natural gas, and other natural re15
sources of the 1002 Area of = Alaska.
16 SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON EXPORT OF OIL.
17 No oil produced = in the 1002 Area of Alaska after the
18 date of any transfer under = section 3 may be exported from
19 the United States.
20 SEC. 5. 1002 = AREA OF ALASKA DEFINED.
21 In this Act the term "1002 Area of Alaska" = means
22 the area described in appendix I to part 37 of title 50,
23 = Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on July 14,
24 2008, = popularly known as the Coastal Plain of the Arctic
25 National Wildlife = Refuge.
VerDate Oct 09 2002 15:13 Jul 15, 2008 Jkt 000000 PO 00000 Frm = 00002 Fmt 6652 Sfmt 6201
C:\TEMP\HALLTX~1.XML HOLCPC
July 15, 2008 = (3:13 p.m.)
F:\M10\HALLTX\HALLTX_038.XML
f:\V10\071508\071508.219.xml= (410237|6)

John W. = Katz
Director of = State/Federal Relations
and Special = Counsel to the Governor
=jwkatz@alaskadc.org
(202)624-5858<= /FONT>

Unknown

From: Mason, Janice L (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JLMASON]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 12:41 PM
To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)
Cc: Rintala; Jessalynn F (GOV)
Subject: RE: Ak_History_Facts

The Governor will not be in Fairbanks at 1:00 p.m. I think if we sent a letter and flag certificate that will be fine. Thanks, Janice

-----Original Message-----

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 11:34 AM

To: Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Rintala, Jessalynn F (GOV)

Subject: FW: Ak_History_Facts

Ladies,

This is one of our Killed In Action soldiers. I did not send the "canned" message maybe the Governor wants to attend??? Janice do you want to respond to her??? We are already sent a letter and flag with cert.

Donna

-----Original Message-----

From: Web

Unknown

From: John Katz [jwkatz@ALASKADC.org]

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 8:52 AM

To: Sarah Palin

Cc: Joseph Balash; Kevin Banks; Kris Perry; Marty Rutherford; Mike Nizich; Sharon W (GOV) Leighow; Tom Irwin; Russ Kelly

Subject: NPRA Record of Decision/Fall Lease Sale

There are no surprises in this announcement, but the final Record of Decision does set the stage for a major lease sale by the BLM this fall.

While perhaps coincidental, the BLM announcement occurs at a time when the Democratic leadership in the House is seeking to feature NPR-A as an essential element of its energy policy (announced last week). Critics counter that the BLM is already doing everything possible to lease acreage in NPR-A on an expeditious basis.

John W. Katz
Director of State/Federal Relations
and Special Counsel to the Governor
jwkatz@alaskadc.org
(202)624-5858

>>> On 7/16/2008 at 12:16 PM, in message <OF2CB5D1B8.1112EF5A-ON85257488.0059438D-85257488.00596E96@cfa.gov>, <Ashley_Banister@ios.doi.gov> wrote:

For Release: July 16, 2008 Contact: Sharon Wilson/Ruth McCoard
(907) 271-5555
Celia Boddington (202)
208-6913
Frank Quimby (202) 208-6416

Record of Decision Sets Stage for Major Lease Sale in National Petroleum Reserve Alaska

In a Record of Decision issued today, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced that it will make land available for oil and gas leasing in the northeast portion of the National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska (NPR-A).

"This action sets the stage for a major lease sale this fall. This is welcome news at a time when Americans are paying record prices at the pump," said C. Stephen Allred, Assistant Secretary for Land and Minerals, in signing the ROD.

At the same lease sale, the BLM also plans to offer land in the northwest portion of the NPR-A.

"The rapid increase in energy costs facing our nation is driven by a

worldwide imbalance in energy supply and demand," Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne said. "Developing the NPR-A in an environmentally sound manner will contribute to our domestic oil and natural gas supplies. Together with new production from other offshore and onshore areas, these increased supplies will help stabilize energy costs."

The lands made available for leasing under plans for NPR-A northeast and northwest could result in a much as 8.4 billion barrels of oil being developed. The lands could also provide trillions of cubic feet of natural gas for shipment to North American markets through gas pipelines currently in the planning stages.

"This decision provides for the protection of high value wildlife, including waterfowl and caribou, and meets the subsistence needs of North Slope residents while making lands with oil and gas potential available for leasing," said BLM-Alaska State Director Tom Lonnie.

The plan includes protections for the polar bear, including requirements to consider impacts on areas used by polar bears for denning. Additionally, with the listing of the polar bear the agency will continue to work closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on future oil and gas activities.

According to the Record of Decision, the BLM defers leasing for 10 years on land currently unavailable for leasing north and east of Teshekpuk Lake.

The Record of Decision for the Northeast NPR-A Final Supplemental Plan can be reached through a link on BLM-Alaska's home page at www.blm.gov/ak.

The BLM, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages more land - 258 million surface acres than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is in 12 Western states, including 80.8 million surface acres in Alaska. The Bureau also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on the public lands.

# # #

Ashley Banister
Special Assistant, Alaska Affairs
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C St., NW, MS-6020
Washington, DC 20240
(202) 208-4177
(202) 219-0229-Fax

Unknown

From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=KYPERRY]

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 4:55 PM

To: 'Sarah Palin'

Subject: Meeting tomorrow

Unless you object, I will schedule a meeting w/Vince Belltrami for you and I for tomorrow. Late morning or early afternoon – by 1pm at latest for 30 minutes.

Kris Perry, Director
Office of Governor Sarah Palin &
Office of International Trade
907.269.7450 (p)
907.269.7463 (f)

Unknown

From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=KYPERRY]

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 4:55 PM

To: 'Sarah Palin'

Subject: Meeting tomorrow

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Kris Perry, Director
Office of Governor Sarah Palin &
Office of International Trade
907.269.7450 (p)
907.269.7463 (f)

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 11:29 AM
To: Wilken; Jessica M (GOV)
Cc: Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: FW: Oil&Gas

-----Original Message-----

From: WebMail@govweb.alaska.gov [mailto:WebMail@govweb.alaska.gov]

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 10:51 AM

To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)

Subject: Oil&Gas

Web mail from: Mr. Scott Ose

address: 8770 Falcon Trace Drive North Jacksonville FL 32222

904-305-5675

MESSAGE:

I just wanted to say thanks for what you do and what you stand for!! The United States needs more officials like you Sarah!! Keep pushing the drilling!!!

Although I am not from Alaska (I'm from Vt.) I have been there several times and have a brother that lives there and is a guide.

Unknown

From: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com> [gov.sarah@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 2:31 PM
To: John Katz
Cc: Joe Balash; K Perry; M Nizich; Russ Kelly
Subject: Re: Congressman Hall/Chapter 2 -- CONFIDENTIAL/ATTORNEY CLIENTPRIVILEGE

I agree with your added statement re: Privileged or Personal Material Redacted
Privilege Pls forward your comments to Hall's office. (Don't know when I'll have time to call him, so maybe voicing our support in the manner you've suggested will suffice.)

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

From: "John Katz" <jwkatz@ALASKADC.org>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 13:06:20 -0400
To: Sarah Palin<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
CC: Joseph Balash<joe.balash@alaska.gov>; Kris Perry<kris.perry@alaska.gov>; Mike Nizich<Mike.Nizich@alaska.gov>; Russ Kelly<rkelly@ALASKADC.org>
Subject: Congressman Hall/Chapter 2 -- CONFIDENTIAL/ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Sorry to bother you again. After sending = my previous email, I received the communication pasted below from = Congressman Hall's energy staff person.

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

If you = do decide to submit a statement, we could add a sentence at the e= nd of the previous draft along the lines of -

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

<= /SPAN>

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&= nbsp;

Hi, John= - I spoke to Mr. Hall = and he said he'd like to speak to the Governor = if she had time in her schedule, but = understands if she's busy. Either way, he = would appreciate a letter of support for the bill and a = statement that he could issue to the press along the lines of how quickly = development would start once the land was transferred.

Thanks!<= /SPAN>

Elizabeth

Elizabeth Stack

Senior Policy = Advisor

Rep. Ralph M. = Hall (TX-04)

Republican = Professional Staff

Committee on = Science and Technology

394 Ford House = Office Building

Washington, DC = 20515

p) 202-225-6371=

f) 202-226-0113=

<= SPAN lang=3Den-us> = ;

John W. = Katz
Director of = State/Federal Relations
and Special = Counsel to the Governor
=jwkatz@alaskadc.org
(202)624-5858<= /FONT>

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 10:18 AM
To: Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)
Subject: Re: Gasline

J- pls get me to Juneau for monday's leggies' actions

----- Original Message -----

From: Nizich, Michael A (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

Sent: Wed Jul 16 08:49:32 2008

Subject: RE: Gasline

Hannah will get something set up, Janice is on the plane heading to Anchorage. What time works for you?

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 8:40 AM

To: Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Nizich, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

Subject: Gasline

I need an AGIA update early today. Pls sched that and gather those who need to participate.

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 9:43 AM
To: 'akmuskrat@yahoo.com'
Subject: RE: Budget

Thank you for writing to Alaska Governor Sarah Palin. The concerns, opinions, and/or information you have sent are important and valuable to the Governor. Although she is unable to respond to each and every email herself, your message has been received and is being reviewed by the appropriate staff person in this office who can best address your need, suggestion, or comment.

-----Original Message-----

From: WebMail@govweb.alaska.gov [mailto:WebMail@govweb.alaska.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, July 15, 2008 8:21 PM

To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)

Subject: Budget

Web mail from: Ms. Jackie Musgrave

address: 1508 G St. Anchorage AK 99501

MESSAGE:

Dear Governor Palin,

I have some questions regarding state grants from the capital budget. I would appreciate hearing from someone who can tell me the answers. Specifically, I am inquiring about state money allocated to Anchorage Public Library (APL) in the current budget (and yes, I did write urging you to veto their request!).

Does APL already have state money in the bank (the millions they were granted) or do they submit bills for repayment?

Does the state track grant expenditures? Is a receiving organization required to supply accounting information or is it just counted as free money, no strings attached?

Do grant requests need to contain detailed information on particular projects for which the money is needed, or is a vague wish list acceptable?

I understand that with the state grant and other local money gifts, APL has $7 million toward a "renovation" of Loussac Library. They anticipate needing $11 million. But the interesting part is, they are only now asking staff for input on how to use the money! They will be getting citizen input before long, and then will start spending on architectural designs and specific changes to the building, once the administrative team has chosen the actual projects.

I find it beyond bizarre that APL would ask for money when they did not have a "needs" plan in place. Apparently they didn't have anything but an old architect's drawing of changes to the main floor, and they now want to go beyond that. At the same time, the Mountain View Branch project is already a million over budget and nothing has been done yet to that building. I think some of the state funding was to go toward that.

With the economy diving downward, I am appalled that Anchorage Public Library would ask for millions before they know what they're going to do with it. I really would like to be enlightened on the grant process, so I hope there is someone who can explain it to me.

Thank you. Sincerely, Jackie Musgrave

Unknown

From: Nizich, Michael A (GOV) [mike.nizich@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 9:06 AM
To: Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored)
Subject: RE: Gasline

We will have the team together at 9:30 Tom will come down to the 17th floor conf room. Pat will be on the phone, Joe, Kelly and I will be on video conf in Juneau.

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 8:50 AM

To: Nizich, Michael A (GOV)

Subject: Re: Gasline

Asap

----- Original Message -----

From: Nizich, Michael A (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

Sent: Wed Jul 16 08:49:32 2008

Subject: RE: Gasline

Hannah will get something set up, Janice is on the plane heading to Anchorage. What time works for you?

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 8:40 AM

To: Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Nizich, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

Subject: Gasline

I need an AGIA update early today. Pls sched that and gather those who need to participate.

Unknown

From: Nizich, Michael A (GOV) [mike.nizich@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 8:53 AM
To: Palin; Sarah (GOV sponsored)
Subject: RE: Gasline

ok

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 8:50 AM

To: Nizich, Michael A (GOV)

Subject: Re: Gasline

Asap

----- Original Message -----

From: Nizich, Michael A (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

Sent: Wed Jul 16 08:49:32 2008

Subject: RE: Gasline

Hannah will get something set up, Janice is on the plane heading to Anchorage. What time works for you?

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 8:40 AM

To: Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Nizich, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

Subject: Gasline

I need an AGIA update early today. Pls sched that and gather those who need to participate.

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 8:50 AM
To: Nizich; Michael A (GOV)
Subject: Re: Gasline

Asap

----- Original Message -----

From: Nizich, Michael A (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

Sent: Wed Jul 16 08:49:32 2008

Subject: RE: Gasline

Hannah will get something set up, Janice is on the plane heading to Anchorage. What time works for you?

-----Original Message-----

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 8:40 AM

To: Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Nizich, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

Subject: Gasline

I need an AGIA update early today. Pls sched that and gather those who need to participate.

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 6:51 AM
To: Burkert, Erin (GOV sponsored)
Subject: Re: Daily Clips 07.16.08

You're up early! Thanks for doing good work there Erin!

----- Original Message -----

From: Burkert, Erin (GOV sponsored) <erin.burkert@alaska.gov>

Sent: Wed Jul 16 06:13:18 2008

Subject: Daily Clips 07.16.08

NEWS CLIPS

July 16, 2008

ALASKA OIL PRICE

$138.04

-$6.44

ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

Alaska scores a coup with alpine skiing nationals

State will also host US cross-country championships in '09

By MIKE CAMPBELL

mcampbell@adn.com

(07/16/08 02:04:19)

Alaska pulled off a rare championship double this week when the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association confirmed that Alyeska Resort will host the U.S. Alpine Nationals March 24-31.

Last month, it was announced that the next two cross-country skiing national championships will be at Kincaid Park, with the 2009 competition being Jan. 3-8.

"It's very, very unusual for one state to host both Alpine and cross-country nationals -- or, for that matter, any two nationals," said Calum Clark, the event director at USSA.

Alyeska hosted the 2007 and 2004 alpine nationals. In 2003, the nationals were moved from Alyeska to Lake Placid because of poor snow conditions.

Anchorage has hosted both the alpine nationals and snowshoe nationals in the same year but never both ski nationals.

Nance Larsen, the vice president of communications and marketing for the Alaska Convention & Visitors Bureau, said the timing should give Anchorage a nice bump of visitors heading into the spring season. Some, she speculated, might choose to arrive early and see portions of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, which begins on March 7,

"It's fantastic," said Shelly Wozniak, public relations manager of the ACVB. "It's really a culmination of a targeted marketing effort to portray Anchorage as a winter city.

"We are one of the top winter cities in the world and people are starting to recognize that."

Wozniak estimated that both events, which will bring hundreds of out-of-state skiers, could inject nearly $2 million into the local economy.

"It's a great situation with Alyeska," Clark said. "It's a great destination."

Such American stars as Bode Miller of Bretton Woods, N.H., gold medalists Ted Ligety of Park City, Utah and Julia Mancuso of Olympic Valley, Calif., are expected on the slopes. So are Scott Macartney of Crystal Mountain, Wash., and Marco Sullivan, both of whom have competed in the spring Arctic Man Ski & Snowgo Classic. Lindsey Vonn of Vail, Colo., and Steven Nyman of Provo, Utah are two other Olympic skiers likely to compete.

A selling point for Alyeska is its downhill course. Because of Alaska's high latitude, there is typically enough snow in spring for a lengthy downhill course that runs to the bottom of the mountain.

At the 2007 nationals at Alyeska, Girdwood's John Love used his home-course advantage to finish 15th in the national championship, beating some U.S. Ski Team members.

"It was just realizing those other guys are just like me," Love said at the time. "They're just out there to ski. We're all doing the same thing."

Another plus is the daylight. By late March, sunset isn't until about 8:30 p.m.

"It's really good, a perfect time of year," Larsen said.

"We've done it so many times now that we have one of the best race crews in the country to support an event of this size," said Russell Sell, a board member of the Alyeska Ski and Snowboard Club. "There's something about our volunteers. We say, 'Let's ramp it up' and they just kind of gather it up."

Sparky Anderson, assistant alpine coach at UAA, said that hosting such a big event is a big asset to the UAA program.

"I'd expect all my kids to compete," said Anderson, who spent seven years as program director for the Alyeska Ski Club in Girdwood before joining UAA. "It's an incredible recruiting tool.

"They're competing against the top skiers in the world. That's a really neat opportunity to measure themselves."

Exxon maintains it doesn't owe interest

$488 MILLION: Company files brief opposing plaintiffs' request.

By WESLEY LOY

wloy@adn.com

(07/15/08 21:58:15)

JUNEAU -- Exxon Mobil Corp. is fighting to avoid paying interest on the $507.5 million judgment the U.S. Supreme Court ordered it to pay for the Exxon Valdez oil spill.

Lawyers for the Texas-based energy giant on Tuesday submitted a nine-page brief to the high court opposing the application of interest, which could bring the total punitive damages Exxon owes for the 1989 spill to nearly $1 billion.

Exxon argues "there is no good reason" for the court to add interest.

"Exxon does not agree that there is any sound basis to award plaintiffs what they seek -- approximately $488 million over and above the $507.5 million that this Court determined was the legally proper amount to punish and deter," according to Exxon's filing.

Lawyers for commercial fishermen and other plaintiffs last week asked the Supreme Court to clarify whether interest would apply. The question came up after the court decided the long-running case on June 25, cutting the amount of damages from $2.5 billion to $507.5 million without mentioning interest.

Alaska lawyers representing the fishermen and other plaintiffs either didn't return calls Tuesday or declined to comment.

One Cordova commercial salmon fisherman, RJ Kopchak, said he wasn't surprised at Exxon's move.

"Everybody should be just livid about this kind of thing," he said. "We're all exhausted at this point. The big guy in the corner just keeps kicking our asses."

Exxon spokesman Tony Cudmore said Exxon believes interest should be applied only from the day the Supreme Court ruled, and not for prior years.

Cudmore added the company isn't trying to drag out a nearly 20-year case even longer.

"Again, like everyone involved in the tragic Valdez accident, we're anxious to have the matter resolved. We know this has been a very difficult time for all involved," Cudmore wrote in an e-mail.

With interest, and minus attorney fees, an estimated $628 million would be divided among the more than 32,000 plaintiffs in the civil case.

Just when the Supreme Court justices might rule on the interest question is unclear.

The court recessed at the end of June, having remanded the case to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco to carry out the punitive damages award. According to the high court's Web site, during the summer the justices continue to analyze new petitions, consider motions and prepare for cases scheduled for fall argument.

In its brief, Exxon's lawyers say that under court rules, if an appellate court "fails to provide directions" on payment of interest on a judgment, then no interest is allowable.

The company's lawyers add that Exxon shouldn't be forced to pay interest as a way to further deter future spills, or because the case dragged on.

They say the blame for the case lasting so long is on fishermen and other plaintiffs who kept urging a U.S. District Court judge in Anchorage to "disregard the plain command" of the appeals court that a jury's original $5 billion award in 1994 had to be reduced.

"There is ... no reason to penalize Exxon by awarding another $488 million in damages when the substantial delay here was not in any sense Exxon's fault," the company's brief says.

Also Tuesday, the head of an industry watchdog group formed after the Exxon Valdez oil tanker hit a charted reef and spilled 11 million gallons of crude asked Gov. Sarah Palin to encourage Congress to censure "the five activist justices who recklessly issued" the "pro-business" decision on June 25.

"Without the possibility of significant punitive damage awards, the task of keeping oil tanker traffic in Prince William Sound environmentally safe will become much more

difficult for organizations such as ours," said John Devens, head of the Prince William Sound Regional Citizens' Advisory Council, in a letter to Palin.

After long debate, Assembly votes to keep I/M testing

TURNAROUND: Program was scheduled to expire at end of 2009.

By TERRY CARR

tcarr@adn.com

(07/16/08 01:57:34)

The Anchorage Assembly gave new life Tuesday night to a vehicle emissions inspection program that had been slated to die at the end of next year.

The decision reverses an 8-month-old vote by an Assembly of a different political stripe.

The action to continue the program, which came on a 6-4 vote late in Tuesday night's meeting, means that most vehicles in Anchorage will continue to undergo an I/M (inspection and maintenance) check every two years. The Assembly approved exceptions for new cars and for old ones.

"The real issue before this community is that we are in a category of city that has some of the worst air in this country," said Assemblywoman Sheila Selkregg, who voted to extend the program. "Even though we meet (federal) standards, we have a serious air issue."

But Assemblyman Chris Birch said the panel should stick with the earlier decision.

"The program has effectively run its course," he said. "We need to focus on issues in this community that are of a larger concern."

Joining Selkregg in voting for the program were Assembly members Matt Claman, Patrick Flynn, Elvi Gray-Jackson, Mike Gutierrez and Harriett Drummond. Birch, Debbie Ossiander, Bill Starr and Jennifer Johnston voted no. Assemblyman Dan Coffey did not participate because of a conflict.

A steady stream of people airing their views pushed a decision late into the night.

Foes and fans of the program were about equally represented.

"The issue is if we do away with I/M testing, the air will get worse," said Dr. George Stewart, a retired physician who specialized in lung diseases.

"We worked hard in getting this program implemented, and we don't want to see it go away," he said.

Other doctors, several parents of asthmatic children, and representatives of groups such as the American Lung Association of Alaska also testified in favor of the program.

But opponents of the program noted that Anchorage air, for years, has complied with federal standards.

"You've already voted to kill the program," said Rick Braun. "Reinstituting it is nothing but a tax increase. ... Stop it. Put a stake in it. Kill it."

The measure approved exempts new vehicles for the first six years. It also exempts 1967 model years or older.

Selkregg withdrew a proposal that would have required noise and safety checks.

The tests have been in place in Anchorage since the mid-1980s. The program was enacted to get control of escalating pollution and to bring the city into compliance with federal air standards, which were often violated before then.

The program requires that vehicle owners pay a fee of about $60 to have their vehicles' emissions checked every other year for problems. A study done for the city reported that drivers spend about $8.7 million a year on the tests and related repairs to bring vehicles into compliance.

Anchorage carbon monoxide readings declined significantly after the birth of the program, which cheered I/M program supporters and stirred opponents to undertake efforts to kill it.

A task force put together by Mayor Mark Begich in June 2007 looked at the program to determine if it should be kept. In the end, that panel urged some minor changes -- such as a longer exemption period for new vehicles -- but urged that the city keep the program.

In November, the Assembly voted 8-2 to kill the program as of the end of 2009. Only Claman and Selkregg then voting to keep it alive.

The balance of power changed dramatically in the April municipal elections, with control of the panel swinging to a group further to the left.

The proposals giving new life to the I/M program arose from that majority.

Glacier history lesson

Clues to past climates and hints of future are hidden in the ice

By ELIZABETH BLUEMINK

ebluemink@adn.com

(07/16/08 00:02:14)

For the first time in decades, federal officials allowed drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge this summer.

It wasn't for oil, though.

The drillers were targeting ice buried deep in a glacier high in the Brooks Range.

Their goal is to learn about the region's past climate and search for clues about the region's future.

One pressing question: If the few Brooks Range glaciers dry up -- and it seems likely that they will if the current warming trend persists -- what will happen to the coastal plain rivers they feed?

Despite all the recent interest in climate change in the Arctic, there's little data on historical climate change in this swath of the Arctic.

"We're barely measuring what's happening now," said Matt Nolan, a glaciologist at the University of Alaska Fairbanks who led the ice core drilling project this summer.

In other places where there's no written record, scientists can drill into trees to study their rings. But there are few trees in that part of the Brooks Range.

Scientists can also analyze sediment layers drilled from lakes, but there aren't that many lakes there either.

One thing the region does have is a scattering of small glaciers. Ice cores drilled out of

glaciers are one of the most valuable tools used by climate researchers around the world today to study temperature changes over hundreds and even thousands of years, Nolan said.

On the Greenland ice sheet, for example, scientists have used ice core samples to probe annual temperature fluctuations as long ago as 100,000 years, he said.

To Nolan, drilling the McCall Glacier -- in the heart of the Arctic wilderness -- seemed like a good research project.

And time is slowly running out. Like other arctic glaciers in Alaska, the 4.3-mile-long McCall is losing about 3 feet of length per year. Physical evidence shows that the glacier was probably about 5 miles long in the 1800s. It may disappear in about 100 years, Nolan said.

When the Brooks Range glaciers are gone, scientists may lose their best tool for looking deep into the past.

WILDERNESS DRILLING

Since the late 1950s, scientists have been traveling to the remote glacier -- 8,000 feet in elevation at its highest point and about 60 miles south of Kaktovik -- to learn about the dynamics of the region's glacial ice and its climate. Nolan has been leading research projects on the glacier for the past six years.

In March, ANWR refuge managers granted Nolan and his research team permission to drill into the glacier for ice cores.

That's unusual for several reasons.

The glacier is part of the Arctic refuge's wilderness zone. It is almost impossible to get permission to use a mechanical tool in a federally designated wilderness. And to make things more concerning, these guys were packing fuel-powered drill rigs.

Ordinarily, that sort of work would be prohibited, said Jimmy Fox, the refuge's deputy manager, based in Fairbanks.

But Fox said the refuge staff has discretion to allow such projects. One thing they consider is whether the work can be done outside the wilderness. Another factor: Can the tools be minimized?

In this case, the only place in the refuge where it made sense to do this research was the McCall Glacier, where related work has been occurring for more than 50 years. And drilling rigs were necessary -- massive ice cores can't be extracted with a hand auger, he said.

PRECEDENT?

The project is also unusual because until now there haven't been many ice cores drilled out of Arctic glaciers in Alaska.

The work was challenging, Nolan said, noting that at one point, the drill hit an aquifer in the ice, filling the drill hole with water.

The team was constantly worried about losing the drill to the moving glacier, he added.

The research team pulled a 500-foot-long ice core from the glacier a few weeks ago. That's the longest ice core ever pulled out of the U.S. Arctic, Nolan said.

He said he hopes the core will provide a climatic record that goes back at least 200 years, when the Little Ice Age was cooling the northern hemisphere and arctic glaciers were still growing.

"I'd like to know how much cooler it was, and whether it was wetter or drier," Nolan said.

The ice cores were flown off the glacier in a Beaver ski plane and for now, they are being housed at the Alaska Ice Art Museum in Fairbanks.

The core samples will be analyzed by ice core researchers in Ohio and Belgium. Nolan said he hopes to have some findings by next March.

Find Elizabeth Bluemink online at adn.com/contact/ebluemink or call 257-4317.

What's in the ice?

How do scientists use ice cores to reconstruct climate history?

• They analyze the relative concentration of hydrogen and oxygen isotopes.

• They study materials trapped in the ice, such as insects, volcanic ash and radioactive fallout from nuclear tests.

Young spends half of his contributions on lawyers

CAMPAIGN: Parnell and Berkowitz raise twice as much as congressman.

By ERIKA BOLSTAD and SEAN COCKERHAM

Anchorage Daily News

(07/16/08 02:12:02)

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Rep. Don Young spent about as much campaign money on lawyers helping him fend off a federal corruption probe as he raised for his re-election bid over the past three months, campaign finance filings show.

Young, Alaska's Republican congressman since 1973, spent $48,521 on his own defense attorney this quarter, plus paid $55,000 to a Seattle lawyer who is defending one of his campaign aides. That brings the total amount Young's campaign has spent on lawyers since the probe began in early 2007 to just over $1.2 million.

Meanwhile, Young raised $106,616 in campaign money over the past three months. Two of those seeking his seat, Republican Lt. Gov. Sean Parnell and Democrat Ethan Berkowitz, brought in more than twice that much. Berkowitz reports he now has a total of nearly $400,000 in campaign cash, almost as much as Young -- who in past elections had an account of over a million dollars.

The legal expenses continue to chip away at what remains of Young's campaign fund.

"Of course we're concerned, but we still have our nose to the grindstone and we're focusing on the campaign," said Young's campaign spokesman, Mike Anderson, who also serves as his chief of staff. "One thing Mr. Young knows how to do is how to campaign."

Anderson said he expects that next quarter, some of the legal expenses charged to the campaign account will shift to the legal expense fund Young set up this winter to help defray his legal costs. U.S. House rules prohibit Anderson from being actively involved in that fund, but he said Tuesday that he has been told that it is raising enough money to pick up the tab for some of Young's legal fees.

A report filed late Tuesday with the Federal Election Commission shows that Young continues to employ John Dowd of the Washington D.C. law firm Akin Gump. Dowd has been

looking at documents in Young's office to determine what is privileged congressional information that they believe Young can withhold and what must be turned over to executive branch investigators.

Young continues to refuse to say exactly what his legal fees have been paying for, but the congressman is connected to several federal investigations. They include a wide-ranging federal probe into corruption in Alaska politics, which has focused on the fundraising practices of the former oil-services company Veco Corp.

Young's campaign also spent about $55,000 this quarter and $35,000 previously with John Wolfe, a Seattle lawyer who represents Steve Dougherty, one of the congressman's longtime campaign aides. Separately, the campaign paid the Washington D.C. law firm Tobin, O'Connor, Ewing and Richard $25,167 this quarter to review its campaign filings.

Young's $106,616 in reported campaign contributions the past three months came from a number of sources including Alaskans, congressional lobbyists and oil company BP.

Young faces two opponents in the August Republican primary. One of them, Parnell, raised $266,000 in the same period, his first full quarter as a candidate.

Much of Parnell's campaign money came through the national anti-earmark group, the Club for Growth. The group said it is also is launching anti-Young television ads in Alaska. The other Republican running, Gabrielle LeDoux, brought in just over $200,000 in the last three months; $157,500 of that was her own money.

Among the two candidates competing in the Democratic primary for the U.S. House seat, Berkowitz has raised far more campaign money than Diane Benson.

Benson reported raising $52,606 in the past three months, with donations from Alaskans as well as the Tohono O'Odham Nation and the Hualapi Tribe, both of Arizona.

Berkowitz -- who brought in over four times as much in the same period -- reported money from Alaska donors in addition to national money from sources such as unions, Planned Parenthood and congressional Democrats.

Begich, Stevens rake in millions

CAMPAIGN: Mayor raises money quickly; senator still has more.

By SEAN COCKERHAM

scockerham@adn.com

(07/16/08 00:14:12)

Anchorage Mayor Mark Begich hauled in more than a million dollars in just the past three months for his campaign to win the seat of longtime Alaska Sen. Ted. Stevens.

"We're very excited," said Begich spokeswoman Julie Hasquet. "We have a huge war chest we're up against. We're just going to have to keep plugging away."

Begich has shown he can raise money fast since entering the race at the end of April. But the Republican Stevens also continues to raise campaign money at a good clip, according to the new federal campaign finance reports out Tuesday. Stevens reported raising $745,000 over the past three months. That left him, after expenses, with a remaining campaign treasury account of $1.68 million.

Stevens has around double the cash on hand that Begich reported after campaign expenses.

Stevens said in a written statement that "we have continued to have strong support from hundreds of Alaskan donors."

David Cuddy, who is running against Stevens in the Republican primary for the Senate, said he's raised just around $10,000 in the past three months. Cuddy has spent about $130,000 on his campaign so far -- mostly out of his own pocket.

"It's very hard running against a 40-year incumbent and with the economy the way it is," Cuddy said.

Cuddy said he doesn't get the "lobbyist and special interest" money that Stevens does. Cuddy challenged Stevens in 1996 for the Republican nomination and spent roughly $1 million, most of that from his own bank account. Cuddy said he's not prepared to spend as much of his money this time and will lose the primary unless he can get people excited about his views of a federal budget that's not loaded with "pork" projects.

Ray Metcalfe, who is running against Begich in the Democratic primary, said he's raised "not much for money." Metcalfe said he's been more focused on proving his allegations that Begich has improper financial relationships with Anchorage developers. Begich says Metcalfe's claims are baseless.

The details of Begich's and Stevens' campaign contribution and spending reports were released Tuesday and combine thousands of pages. They'll be closely analyzed over the coming days but an immediate scan through Stevens' report shows Alaska donors as well as money from Citigroup, the American Cable Association, the United States Telecom Association, Southwest Air, Clear Channel Communications and lobbying firms.

Begich's report, available on his campaign Web site, also shows Alaska donors as well as money from several unions, the abortion-rights group NARAL, the American Association for Justice lawyers group and political action committees of Senate Democrats. Begich also picked up a lot of small donations via the Internet through the ActBlue Democratic

political action committee.

Safety department appointee denies account of sexual harassment

ACCUSATION: State's new public safety boss claims no "skeletons."

By MEGAN HOLLAND

mholland@adn.com

(07/16/08 00:13:25)

The new state Department of Public Safety Commissioner Chuck Kopp on Tuesday denied a history of sexual harassment while he was police chief in Kenai.

Stories of inappropriate conduct by Kopp toward a former employee surfaced after Gov. Sarah Palin abruptly replaced commissioner Walt Monegan with Kopp on Friday.

Asked at a press conference to get his side of the sexual harassment allegations, Kopp responded: "There has never been a sexual harassment allegation that resulted in a lawsuit or a settlement by the city of Kenai."

Asked how many complaints have been filed against him, he said: "I do not have a history of complaints. Obviously, there has been a source that has talked about an incident, and anything that would be a personnel matter with another individual I would not be able to comment on. But, again, I just want to encourage you guys, there is absolutely nothing in my record that I'm ashamed of. There's no skeletons in my closet."

Asked again how many complaints have there been, Kopp said: "There's only one that I've ever been, ah, that has ever happened. Period. And I don't want to comment on that."

Palin knew of the accusation before she picked Kopp, her spokeswoman Sharon Leighow said. She looked into it and found it to be unsubstantiated, Leighow said. The governor still supports Kopp, she said.

On Sunday, a Kenai Peninsula woman e-mailed Palin that Kopp is "a dishonest, manipulative bully" who once sexually harassed her.

The woman, whom the Daily News has agreed not to name, said Tuesday she worked for Kopp in 2005 as his assistant. Kopp repeatedly asked her for hugs and a once kissed her cheek, she said. When she objected to his behavior, he reprimanded her, she said.

She reported the incidents to another supervisor, who took it to the city council, she

said. It was also reported to the Alaska Police Standards Council.

Her claims were substantiated, she said, and she was given a different boss.

A city councilman at that time, Joe Moore, said any personnel matters are confidential.

The police standards council said it would not reveal information about investigations into unethical behavior unless it resulted in the officer having his badge taken away.

Palmer building permits dip to 10-year low

MONEY: City takes in $22,583 compared with $63,821 for the same time period last year.

By T.C. MITCHELL

tcmitchell@adn.com

(07/15/08 22:45:57)

PALMER -- While many property owners' renovations are giving downtown Palmer a face-lift, that may be a bit deceiving regarding construction overall.

At the City Council's meeting July 8, Sandra Garley, director of community development, gave the mayor, city manager and the council some grim news: The number of building permits issued so far this year is at a 10-year low.

Through June, only 50 permits had been issued to builders. That compares to a high of 80 for the same period in 2003.

Beyond being bad for builders, the slowdown has hurt the city's pocketbook.

The city charges for those permits, and the first half of this fiscal year has brought in $22,583 compared to the same time frame last year totalling $63,821.

And even though there weren't many permits granted in 1999, the value of the property being built was $14.5 million compared to this year's $2 million.

"It's a reflection of the economy at the state and federal level," Garley said Friday. "We've had few housing starts, and that's part of that low number. Palmer's always had peaks and valleys."

The story's similar in Wasilla.

"We're experiencing the same thing," city planner Jim Holycross, said Monday. "In June we had six permits, and this month we have two. Of course the month isn't over."

He said the Primrose Retirement Community has been a bright spot with its four duplexes, 32 assisted living units and 36 single-family homes. He said multiple-family units like duplexes are helping out, as well as additions to established businesses such as Fred Meyer and the Alaska Club.

Wasilla also has attracted some big-box-type stores, Sportsman's Warehouse among them.

That's where Garley thinks Palmer is hurting, in addition to the home construction slump.

"We're not getting the big stores," she said. "They're waiting for the economy to turn around."

Garley said bigger businesses are showing an interest in locating in the hub of government in the Valley but not this year. She said advance people have been stopping in to get information about building codes and other compliance data, but they're telling her they're waiting for better financial conditions.

With building in slow mode, those who supply lumber, paint, wiring and all the other stuff, are feeling it as well.

"It's less than before, but everybody's not doing as much business as last year," said Jason Crist, assistant manager at Spenard Builders Supply in Palmer.

"We had two or three good years there."

As for this cycle, "We'll have to wait 'til the end of the year to know for sure" how business turns out.

Mat-Su, Anchorage still at odds over ferry landing

TYONEK: Cook Inlet village plans to sign up for service and build community dock.

By RINDI WHITE

rwhite@adn.com

(07/15/08 22:46:06)

WASILLA -- Construction of a catamaran-style ferry to transport passengers from Anchorage to Port MacKenzie is expected to be complete in fall 2009, but the Matanuska-Susitna Borough is still waiting for Anchorage to agree on a landing spot on its side of the inlet.

Meanwhile, neighboring Cook Inlet community Tyonek plans to sign on as a ferry customer.

The ferry is a one-of-a-kind ship being built by the federal Office of Naval Research.

That office is paying for construction, estimated at $50 million, because it's interested in features such as the ferry's movable deck that can be raised or lowered to allow beach landings in wartime.

The vessel is also an icebreaker that should be able to plow through Cook Inlet ice floes year around.

According to Tyonek's development consultant John McClellan, the village's tribal and community leaders are reviewing a memorandum of agreement with the Mat-Su Borough saying it will support the project and seek funding for a Tyonek landing dock.

Tyonek, a community of about 181 people 45 miles west of Anchorage, would be a two-hour ferry trip from Anchorage.

"It's only accessible now by air. For a family to go shopping in the urban center they can literally see from town, it just doesn't happen. It's very difficult to organize that," McClellan said.

Borough manager John Duffy said Tyonek's involvement is a sign of support for ferry service in Cook Inlet.

"That further supports what we've been saying for many years, that the ferry system will create a lot of new economic opportunities. That's something Anchorage should keep in mind, that a lot of these economic opportunities will benefit them," Duffy said.

If Duffy's comment sounds critical of Anchorage, it's meant to. Mat-Su and Anchorage officials have been deadlocked over where the Mat-Su ferry should land for several years. The Anchorage landing is expected to cost $30 million, Mat-Su port director Marc Van Dongen said.

Anchorage municipal leaders want the ferry to land at its expanding port where, according to Anchorage economic and community development executive director Mary Jane Michael, its landing dock can be reused if the ferry one day stops operating.

Mat-Su Borough officials want the ferry to land at Ship Creek, well away from security and traffic at the port.

Both Michael and Duffy said they hope a letter from Anchorage Mayor Mark Begich outlining his expectations for the project will resolve the issue.

But the borough says the delay has had a significant cost.

Van Dongen said ferry service is delayed by two years because a site has not yet been picked, and that the landings will cost $6 million more to build due to rising construction costs.

Michael said Anchorage supports the ferry project but it has to blend with development plans the city already has for Ship Creek.

And the city wants to see plans for raising capital and operational funds that will resolve concerns that the project would be a burden to Anchorage taxpayers one day if the ferry business stops or subsidies for operations don't follow as planned.

"We need to see a comprehensive plan for the ferry, not just choose a landing," she said.

Duffy said the borough is preparing that information. He said the borough does not yet have funding to build the Anchorage landing, although he's confident the borough will get it.

"It's real hard to ask for funding if you don't know the final cost," Duffy said.

Duffy said the ferry will likely be complete in 2009 but piloting it from Ketchikan to Anchorage in rough winter seas could "reduce the useful life" of the vessel.

He estimated the vessel would be in Cook Inlet in the spring of 2010.

MEA to pursue gas plant

Anchorage Daily News

(07/15/08 22:46:36)

WASILLA -- Matanuska Electric Association says regional electric plans won't affect its pursuit of a natural gas plant to serve Eagle River and Mat-Su customers.

Utility cooperative representatives were at an Anchorage meeting of utility leaders and others Thursday, participating in a two-year state-funded Railbelt Electrical Grid Authority study.

Kevin Harper with energy consulting firm Black & Veatch presented preliminary study results that analyzed how Railbelt utilities would be affected if they combined generation and transmission duties. Harper's presentation estimated utilities could save between $10 and $30 million each year over 30 years by consolidating into a single, state-run entity. Harper said the utilities, many of them member-owned cooperatives, could continue to operate as energy distributors.

MEA spokeswoman Lorali Carter said after the meeting that MEA administrators have previously backed plans for a traditional generation and transmission cooperative along the Railbelt but are concerned that a state-run entity, overseen by governor-appointed board members, might be too subject to political whims.

Further, Harper's presentation suggested that the authority might have easier access to tax-free financing if it was not subject to regulation by the state Regulatory Commission of Alaska. Carter said MEA would prefer that the new entity remain under Regulatory Commission control.

Fort Wainwright soldiers head to Iraq

The Associated Press

(07/15/08 10:37:03)

About 500 soldiers based at Fort Wainwright near Fairbanks will be deployed to Iraq this week, the Army says.

A deployment ceremony is planned Thursday for the soldiers of Task Force 49.

The unit will provide aerial reconnaissance and air support in Iraq during the 12-month deployment.

Alaska gas prices highest in US

The Associated Press

(07/15/08 10:25:24)

The AAA says the average price of regular gas in Alaska is the highest in the nation, topping this month's list at $4.64 a gallon.

Alaska is followed by California at $4.51 a gallon and Hawaii at $4.47.

The automobile association surveys nearly 100,000 gas stations across the country daily.

The Anchorage average is $4.42 a gallon today compared with $2.98 a year ago, AAA said. The Alaska average a year ago was $3.12.

Nationally, regular gasoline prices average $4.11, AAA said.

Meanwhile, oil prices tumbled today as U.S. stocks sold off amid worries about the nation's economic health.

Prices dropped more than $10 a barrel from their highest point of the day. At midday, light, sweet crude fell $6.27 to $138.91 in an extremely volatile session.

The turnaround may not signal a lasting shift in sentiment; prices have swung violently in recent days as they flirted with record highs. But it does underscore investor uncertainty about the sustainability of sky-high prices and their effect on the broader economy.

"They're slamming this pretty good. But remember, these $10 moves are becoming a little more commonplace," said Phil Flynn, analyst at Alaron Trading Corp. in Chicago.

Oil prices plunge to $138

INFLATION: Investors showing uncertainty over sky-high prices.

By ADAM SCHRECK

The Associated Press

(07/15/08 23:18:55)

NEW YORK -- Oil prices fell harder than they have in 17 years Tuesday as fears that record fuel prices are spreading broad economic pain exacerbated the third big sell-off in just over a week.

Alaska North Slope oil plunged $6.44, or 4.5 percent, to close at $138.04 a barrel on West Coast open markets. Other grades of oil from around the world fell similar amounts.

Mounting concerns about the risks inflation poses to the United States, the world's biggest oil consumer, helped spark the declines. Analysts also attributed the sell-off on the New York Mercantile Exchange to Thursday's expiration of options contracts, which tend to increase volatility, and to computers programed to automatically sell once prices reach certain thresholds.

"There was this big ... selling pressure when prices dipped below $140 a barrel. It got a lot of bulls very nervous," said Tom Kloza, chief oil analyst at the Oil Price Information Service. "If it was a fire, you'd call it an accelerant."

The drop, which eclipsed last Tuesday's slide of $5.33, marked the biggest decline in dollar terms since the Gulf War. Even so, prices remain no lower than they were a week ago.

Longtime market observers cautioned that the turnaround might not signal a lasting shift in sentiment -- prices have swung violently in recent days as they flirted with record highs. But it does underscore investor uncertainty about the sustainability of sky-high prices and their potentially long-lasting effects on the broader economy.

Concerns about the economy were high on traders' minds Tuesday.

Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke told Congress that "numerous difficulties" are racking the U.S. economy, and warned that rising prices for energy and food are elevating the risks of inflation.

At the same time, the Labor Department reported that wholesale inflation jumped by 1.8 percent last month, a larger-than-expected gain. Over the past year, wholesale prices have risen 9.2 percent, the most since 1981.

The latest monthly market report from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries

gave traders further reason to unload oil.

The cartel predicted world oil demand will rise by 900,000 barrels a day in 2009, or 100,000 barrels per day less than this year. OPEC blamed the slowdown on a slumping economy and high pump prices in richer industrialized countries.

Meanwhile, a five-day strike by Brazilian oil workers that began early Monday had less effect on output than feared.

The dollar fell to a new low against the euro, but that did little to halt oil's decline. The weaker dollar has driven prices sharply higher in recent months, enticing investors to pump money into oil as a hedge against inflation and making crude cheaper for overseas buyers.

President Bush continued to press the Democratic-run Congress to open up new areas to offshore oil drilling. The president lifted a ban on continental shelf drilling Monday, but a congressional prohibition remains.

At the fuel pump, retail gas prices in the U.S. remained at a record near $4.11 a gallon, according to auto club AAA, the Oil Price Information Service and Wright Express. Diesel rose six-tenths of a penny to its own high of $4.83 a gallon.

The AAA says the average price of regular gas in Alaska is the highest in the nation, at $4.64 a gallon.

Alaska is followed by California at $4.51 a gallon and Hawaii at $4.47.

The Anchorage average is $4.42 a gallon today compared with $2.98 a year ago, AAA said. The Alaska average a year ago was $3.12.

Tuesday's sell-off alone is unlikely to bring drivers much relief.

"People shouldn't expect to see their pump prices drop," Kloza said.

FAIRBANKS DAILY NEWS MINER

Slow business prompts perks in Denali park

By Rena Delbridge <http://www.newsminer.com/staff/rena-delbridge/>

Published Wednesday, July 16, 2008

FAIRBANKS — Visitation is down 13 percent so far this year at Denali National Park, prompting some businesses to offer major bargains in hopes of sparking in-state travel.

According to the park public affairs office, 143,514 visitors entered Denali so far this year, compared to about 164,324 at this time in 2007. Even camping reservations declined 17 percent through June 22, said Kris Fister, park public affairs manager.

Attributing the decline to a slow economy and rising gas prices, Denali Park Resorts is offering half-price bargains on two-night stays through Sept. 17 — plus a $100 gas card. More two-for-one specials are available on tours and activities hosted by the company.

"We are really having to provide tremendous value for the gas dollar," said Bob Concienne, vice president for Alaska operations for Aramark Parks and Destinations, which owns Denali Park Resorts.

Traffic is down at Denali Park Resorts' four lodging facilities near the park, Concienne said. At the same time, changes in consumer spending patterns indicate people want more value for a dollar — and that they are willing to forego far-off vacations in favor of staycations, or vacations taken at home or close to home to save money.

"The incentive is gas," he said. "If we can incentivize folks to come visit our properties if we pay for their gas, all the better."

Aramark wanted to capitalize on the momentum of staycations. Staycations will be a key component of Denali Park Resorts' business for the next few years, he added.

"We've got to provide that sort of option and make it attractive," he said.

Denali Park Resorts' focus on staycations could boost business at independent businesses serving tourists around the national park — some of whom say they're unable to offer such drastic cuts as the national chain Aramark.

Instead, they are relying on word-of-mouth advertising and loyalty, offering discounts for return customers and military, and hoping this tourist season picks up.

Joanna Cockman is co-owner of Denali Outdoors Center, a Healy business that pairs a campground and cabins with raft trips, kayak tours and mountain bike excursions.

Tourism is definitely slow this season, she said, although the pick-up in German-speaking travelers has helped offset the overall decreases.

That's because the center caters to independent travelers, rather than those on package tours, and German-speaking guests are more likely to see Alaska on their own.

The center always offers discounts for locals, she said.

The slow-down has also hit high-end tourist services, such as flightseeing. Tim Cudney, director of business development for Era Helicopters, said he and others in the business have noticed declines this year.

He said Era is taking the slowdown in stride, managing better instead of laying off staff or making other cuts. A cushion is softening the situation — Era raised rates significantly last year to reflect higher fuel costs, and is somewhat offsetting declines in numbers through those fee increases, Cudney explained.

While Era isn't trying to lure more business with deals, people can typically save money by buying tickets direct, Cudney said.

Energy summit to focus on gasification facility

By Rena Delbridge <http://www.newsminer.com/staff/rena-delbridge/>

Published Wednesday, July 16, 2008

FAIRBANKS — High-ranking federal and state officials will be in Fairbanks this week for an energy summit hosted by borough Mayor Jim Whitaker and U.S. Sen. Ted Stevens to fast-track a plant to turn coal and biomass into power, fuel and heat for Interior Alaska.

Officials attending include U.S. Department of Energy Undersecretary Bud Albright Jr., and Kevin Billings, deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for Energy and Environment. Alaska's Washington, D.C., delegation and state Speaker of the House Rep. John Harris, R-Valdez, are expected to attend, as well. Gov. Sarah Palin was invited but hasn't confirmed her plans.

Whitaker said the summit will hopefully solidify federal and state support for the Interior Energy Plan that the borough and the Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation have been working on for more than three years. Heating and fueling costs have increased exponentially during that time, prompting Whitaker and others to push for quick action on a plant.

Attendees will hear from experts in resources, transportation, technology and more on Friday morning at Wedgewood Resort, followed by a question-and-answer period. The group is scheduled for dinner and a reception at Chena Hot Springs, where discussions will continue Saturday morning.

Each party will be asked to pledge support and to consider what they can bring to the table to build the facility.

"We recognize that it will take a bit of time, but not much, in order for the participants of this summit to be fully authorized (to act)," Whitaker said. "The intent is to fast-track this."

Making sure planning is complete and funding is in place will fast-track the project, he explained. Local proponents are also hoping for a military commitment to site the facility at Eielson Air Force Base and to purchase fuel, a key component in bringing a plant online quickly, Whitaker said.

Meanwhile, FEDC and the borough anticipate a report this fall from Toronto-based consultant Hatch Ltd. that should identify the best options and costs for building a gasification facility.

As proposed, such a plant would turn coal and biomass into gas, then use the Fischer-Tropsch process to turn the gas into liquid fuel for space heating and transportation. Additional gas would be used to power turbines to generate electricity.

The same raw materials, coal and biomass, could also be gasified as synthetic fuels. The Air Force could be a critical market for those synthetic fuels.

The Fischer-Tropsch process was developed in Germany in the 1920s. The process has been used for several decades to fuel vehicles in South Africa.

Whitaker and Stevens are hosting the energy summit with support from FEDC.

Fairbanks fire training center expected to open in September

By Staff report <http://www.newsminer.com/staff/staff-report/>

Published Wednesday, July 16, 2008

FAIRBANKS — The Fairbanks Regional Fire Training Center on 30th Avenue and Lathrop Street is expected to be completed by the end of September if the City Council approves a resolution to fund the completion of the second phase of the project.

The fire training center is used by city, borough and interior firefighters and has been funded by the state and local governments so far.

Fairbanks borough, UAF eye free bus rides

By Christopher Eshleman <http://www.newsminer.com/staff/chris-eshleman/>

Originally published Tuesday, July 15, 2008 at 1:00 p.m.

Updated Wednesday, July 16, 2008 at 12:17 a.m.

FAIRBANKS — University students, professors, employees and teachers could start riding the bus for free this fall.

The Fairbanks North Star Borough and the University of Alaska Fairbanks are eyeing a deal where anyone with a school ID card could hop on any public bus line for free, anywhere, anytime.

Brian Rogers, the university's interim chancellor, said rising gasoline costs, coupled with parking fees, can leave some students and staff paying up to $10 a day to commute and park.

"Absent this," Rogers said of the proposed pilot program, "there's a real barrier to students, an economic barrier, and all of us are facing it." The rising cost of commuting to school and work hinders the school's mission of promoting academic excellence and lifelong learning in Alaska, he said.

Four of the borough's six fixed-route bus lines — Yellow, Blue, Red and Gray — make regular stops at the university's main campus, and the downtown transit center sits a couple of blocks away from the school's Tanana Valley Campus.

It would hit a slice of the community that already uses the bus often — about one in six of all 292,000 bus rides start or end at the university's Wood Center student activity building, said Glenn Miller, who directs the Transportation Department for the borough. But there could be room for growth, as only seven riders disembarked from a combined four bus stops at the Wood Center between 9:15 and 9:45 Tuesday morning.

Twenty-one-year-old chemistry student Kyung Kim said she'd heard something last week from a friend about the prospect of free rides.

"I think it's a good idea," said Kim, an incoming sophomore who has used monthly bus passes to commute between North Pole and UAF all summer. A native of Korea who has attended high school and college in Fairbanks for four years, she said free rides would make her think seriously about commuting year-round. She said the bus system in her hometown is far more convenient than here, but added that in many ways, using the Fairbanks routes still beats driving.

"If the bus system was more convenient, I might take the bus to come here every day" all year, she said outside the Wood Center on Tuesday.

Borough Mayor Jim Whitaker is set to formally pitch what would amount to a pilot project this week.

For the first year or two, the university would pay the borough a fraction of the prospective contract's price tag to compensate for lost fares, Miller said. After that, if the pilot project is successful, the two sides can strike a longer-term deal that would leave the university on the hook to pay roughly $200,000 or more each year.

The Borough Assembly could approve the trial run as early as July 24. That would put the free-rides program in place weeks in advance of the fall semester.

Part-time students would also be eligible for the proposed program, as would anyone with an active school identification card.

Whitaker said the proposal also carries the potential of increasing overall ridership numbers, which he said could mean more federal funding for the bus system.

"Overall, it's a significant winner for both the borough and the university," he said.

Many large cities, including Anchorage, strike transit deals with big employers. Rogers said the idea has been floating around Fairbanks for a few years.

This summer, he said, Whitaker's chief of staff revived the idea during meetings with Rogers' administrative services transition team.

The group realized the plan could help lower student costs, make life on campus a little more "sustainable," make it easier to park and get people in the habit of using public transit.

"Based on that, the mayor put together a proposal (for) us and I said, 'Yes, we're prepared to pay a portion on a trial basis.' And off it went," Rogers said.

Miller said more bus riders would also reduce air pollution by cutting the number of cars on the road, including a type of pollution consisting of tiny bits of airborne dust, chronic in Fairbanks.

"Reducing the total (vehicle miles traveled) will not only help us in our current struggles" with particulate pollution, Miller wrote in an e-mail, "but with other pollutants such as carbon monoxide and other gases that seem to be front page news around the country today."

The school would pay the borough almost $20,000 under the first year of the pilot program.

Anchorage has used a similar deal to offer free bus rides to university students and staff for a decade, according to Jody Karcz, the city's transit director. The number of riders who flashed their university ID for a free ride more than doubled during the U-Pass program's first couple of semesters, from 359 riders per day to 850, she said. Since then, the city has struck similar ridership deals with a few other big employers including ConocoPhillips.

Karcz said she thinks frequent riders appreciate the added option of taking the bus for free to and from work, particularly in light of the rising cost of gasoline.

She suspects rising fuel costs have led to increased ridership in Anchorage, which has risen by about 10 percent in recent months.

"When you get rid of the fare, you make ridership a lot easier," she said.

Rogers said organizers would define a long-term free-rider program based on how well it works during the trial course.

"We really appreciate that the mayor came up with this program and hope the trial shows that it does make a difference and reaches all of our objectives," he said.

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JUNEAU EMPIRE

With low rates back, conservation slackens

AEL&P spokesman says energy use still lower than in 2007

Juneau is still conserving electricity compared to last year. But in the month the city spent back on lower rates, usage crept up once again.

"Energy use in 2008 is trending upward at a relatively constant slope," wrote Alaska Electric Light & Power Co. spokesman Scott Willis in an e-mail.

Last week, Juneau used about 13 percent less electricity than in the same week last year, according to numbers provided by Willis. Conservation persists despite this year's cooler temperatures, which ordinarily tend to correlate with higher electricity use.

In the weeks before the April 16 avalanche, Juneau was using about 2 to 3 percent more electricity than during the same time in 2007. That trend might have been expected to continue - until avalanches destroyed the lines from the Snettisham hydroelectric power plant and forced the city to rely on more expensive diesel. At the height of Juneau's enthusiasm for conservation, in May, residents and businesses made national news by conserving electricity by more than 30 percent compared to the year before.

Anecdotally, Juneau Home Depot manager Troy Wolfinbarger painted a similar picture. After the avalanches, he couldn't keep compact fluorescent light bulbs in stock, as pallet after pallet sold out. Now, he said, they're still selling more than they were before the avalanches, but just slightly more. Gas-fueled major appliances such as dryers and stoves, which also gained sudden popularity after the avalanches, are also still selling a bit more, he said.

"I can see there is still some consciousness out there about energy conservation, but it's nothing like it was," he said.

Was the conservation a temporary blip in our usual consumption habits? Could it portend greater future energy conservation?

"I think some of it still may be behavioral. I think people may have found that they can do just fine without certain things," said Willis, noting that lights were still dim at various offices around town, and that he himself had realized he could turn his boiler off.

The focus on conservation for many may shift back to petroleum products, as gasoline and

heating oil prices rise - and the latter is once again more expensive than electricity.

"What I'm hearing from friends and family is the inclination to go buy plug-in heaters because oil is so expensive," said Sally Schlicting, a member of the city Sustainability Commission.

But people can't just switch to a new energy source, she added.

"You've got to insulate your home and reduce your energy consumption," she said.

Responding to news of the upward trend, Bill Leighty, an energy analyst and former member of the city Energy Advisory Committee, said people shouldn't be surprised by it.

"People are sick and tired of not being able to use their electric dryers," he said.

He maintained that Juneau could have done more - and could still do more - to retrain itself to consume less energy.

That would have required, for example, seeing a shockingly high bill very early in the crisis; conducting home energy audits on a mass scale to find and fix where energy is wasted; and installing smart meters in houses to show people directly the effects of turning on appliances.

"If you're training a dog, you need to give the dog rapid, immediate feedback to reinforce or discourage behavior. We're just smart dogs, in this case," Leighty said.

KETCHIKAN DAILY NEWS

Committee to discuss tax incentives

KETCHIKAN (KDN) - Property tax incentives is a discussion item for the Planning Liaison Committee's meeting Tuesday.

Assembly Member John Harrington, committee co-chair, listed in a memo four possible tax incentives/exemptions for the committee to discuss, including historic sites, buildings and monuments; maintenance and repair or renovation of an existing structure; economic development property; and substantial rehabilitation of deteriorated property.

Harrington writes historic buildings could be exempted from taxes, according to state law.

Tax incentives for maintenance of an existing building category is limited to four years, and the extent of repairs while rehabilitation of deteriorated property is up to 10 years.

Economic development property only applies to new capital ventures and is limited to five years.

Also on Tuesday's agenda, is a review of the comprehensive plan update sections 3 through 6, and going over the proposed job description for an economic development manager.

KTUU

Valley Bureau

Wasilla council grapples with unethical behavior

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

WASILLA, Alaska -- The Wasilla City Council has agreed that Mayor Dianne Keller and her staff acted unethically to benefit a developer.

But Monday night the council had a more difficult time deciding what should happen to all those involved.

"My concern is that if we don't do anything here, we've essentially told the employees

that we condone this behavior," Councilwoman Dianne Woodruff said.

Woodruff proposed an action memorandum to censure the two current and one former employee accused of working inappropriately and illegally with Meritage Development Group.

The memorandum failed with a 3-1 vote.

Some council members say since the mayor hires her staff she must be the one to discipline them.

"I just want to make sure that we take the right process," Councilman Marty Mativa said. "You know, we're governed by code, there's certain things we can do, and there's certain things we can't do."

Council member Steve Menard announced Monday he will bring back his June 30 motion for a vote of no confidence in Mayor Keller.

The original motion was pulled after council approved a motion to request Keller's resignation. Keller told the council she will not resign.

News Minute: Inflation...Potential veeps...Israeli confirmation

Associated Press - July 16, 2008 9:03 AM ET

WASHINGTON (AP) - Americans were again paying a lot more for energy last month -- and that led to the biggest jump in consumer inflation in 26 years. The government says prices soared by 1.1%, a much worse showing than expected. Big gains for gasoline, home heating oil and natural gas get much of the blame.

CHICAGO (AP) - Barack Obama is meeting with two potential running mates amid a push to outline his vision for Iraq and U.S. foreign policy elsewhere. Obama will be joined by Indiana Senator Evan Bayh and former Georgia Senator Sam Nunn at an event at Purdue University in Indiana today.

CINCINNATI (AP) - John McCain will speak before the NAACP's annual conference in Cincinnati. In his speech, he'll promise to expand school choice, saying new reforms should be demanded by parents who send their children to failing schools.

ROSH HANIKRA, Israel (AP) - Hezbollah guerrillas have turned over two coffins containing the bodies of Israeli soldiers captured two years ago. Though Israeli officials had suspected the soldiers were dead all along, the sight of the two coffins was the first proof of that since they were captured.

STICKNEY, Ill. (AP) - A family from suburban Chicago says they arrived at a funeral home to view their 91-year-old grandmother's body, but found another woman inside the casket instead. The family of Lillian Grogan says the stranger was wearing their grandmother's dress and favorite bracelet, after the funeral home mixed the women up.

OTHER PAPERS

Letters to the Editor/Opinion

ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

(Letters to the Editor/Opinion)

Hydropower

Chakachamna has become an alternative worth exploring

(07/15/08 23:10:13)

A good-sized hydropower project at Chakachamna Lake about 85 miles west of Anchorage looks promising as a major source of renewable energy that can help hold down electricity costs in the Railbelt for decades.

The proposed project would generate enough power to provide electricity to nearly a third of the homes from Fairbanks to Anchorage to the Kenai Peninsula -- enough to take the edge off worries that cheap, once-abundant supplies of natural gas from Cook Inlet are drying up.

It's worth a serious look -- especially compared with more costly or most environmentally disruptive alternatives, like using coal, or building a more massive hydro project on the Susitna River.

The Chakachamna project is estimated to cost $1.75 billion. That would be a big investment, but as with all hydro projects, a big up-front investment buys a source of electricity that runs for decades, with fuel costs that are essentially zero. The price of electricity from the project will depend on whether the state contributes construction funds. The more the state contributes, the less the electricity will cost. Power from the state-financed Bradley Lake hydro project, near Homer, wholesales for around 4.4 cents a kilowatt hour compared to about 7.5 cents for electricity from natural gas generators.

Chakachamna was among 33 alternative energy projects that just won a small but encouraging grant from the Denali Commission and the Alaska Energy Authority.

The project was first brought up in the 1980s, but big-dreaming community leaders and politicians at the time favored a huge and ultimately unrealistic hydro project on the Susitna River. TDX Power recently revived Chakachamna Lake, simplified it, and lessened one of the major concerns with the early version -- that it could hurt salmon runs.

The latest proposal, instead of creating a dam, calls for building a 12-mile long tunnel to funnel water from the mountains to a power plant near sea level. The idea is that the level of the lake wouldn't have to be raised behind a dam that would block salmon from swimming upstream.

It's not clear whether building Chakachamna would hurt the economic prospects for a natural gas pipeline from the North Slope to Southcentral. To make that gas pipeline economically feasible, it needs some big industrial customers to buy a lot of gas -- such as Railbelt electric utilities, which burn the gas to generate most of their power. Hydropower would mean cheaper electricity in the long run, but the gas pipeline will mean cheaper heating fuel in the long run.

Which is the better option? Could the region support both projects? Those questions require speedy attention from the state. Other questions -- such as the impact on fish, risks from earthquakes and volcanic eruptions -- will need to be addressed too.

Chakachamna is everything the Susitna mega- hydro project wasn't. It is a relatively modest, affordable project with environmental impacts that, at least at this very preliminary stage, appear to manageable. Having the Chakachamna project in the mix of possibilities is an exciting prospect for Alaska's energy future.

BOTTOM LINE: This $1.75 billion project is a potentially attractive option that the state should help investigate.

A great leap

On a June morning in 1937, my father, Fabian, crawled out of his sleeping bag in the brush at the edge of Fairbanks. He was 20 and had just spent his first night in Interior Alaska. The trip from Minneapolis lasted a week.

I have often wondered what he thought as he folded up his bag. Was he anxious? A certain amount of courage was required to head north in 1937.

Fabian's grandfather and great-grandfather needed courage, too, more than a half century earlier when they left Denmark for the United States.

My family tree is filled with Irish names -- Carey, Sullivan, O'Sullivan, O'Keefe -- but there's also a Larsen branch. The Larsens were farmers in the old country and farmers in the new, at Ortonville, Minn., along the South Dakota border.

A popular history of Minnesota says Ortonville was laid out by C.K. Orton who "established a trading post with the Sioux Indians. As the settlers filtered into the country and took up homesteads, Ortonville began to flourish. ..."

The Larsens traveled by steamer from Copenhagen or Hamburg. I don't know where they landed. If they sailed from Hamburg perhaps they heard the ship's band play -- as ship's bands did in Hamburg -- "Must I Then, Must I Then, Leave My Native Town." Yes, they must -- Danish farmers struggled from year to year. Minnesota, they heard, would be better.

Yet what did the Larsens think the first morning they woke up in Ortonville? They had been traveling for days. They didn't speak the language. Their knowledge of American geography was so rudimentary it would be fair to say they didn't know where they were. It would be understandable if at day's end they watched the sun set over South Dakota and asked "What have I done?"

Nevertheless, they got up the next morning and commenced working, becoming in a generation middle-class citizens -- and city people, residents of Minneapolis.

My friend Jerome Lardy, who accompanied me to Ortonville a few years ago, liked to say "Michael, we have no idea where we are going in this universe. At least we'd like to know where we came from."

I came from people who leapt into the unknown -- and landed safely. My gratitude is no bookend to their courage. But gratitude is what I have to offer. I would not be here if they had not leapt.

-- Michael Carey

Letters to the editor (7/16/08)

(07/15/08 23:10:14)

Use flatcars to haul commuters

Here's an idea to ponder regarding Valley commuters: What about ferrying cars on a railroad flatcar of some sort made especially for the task? That way commuters can have their cars in the city but take advantage of mass transit to and from the Valley.

I am not a Valley commuter, but I can see how simply taking a train into Anchorage to work presents some challenges with getting around once you're here, as well as those days when something may prevent you from getting back to the train on time to get home.

-- Pam Butcher

Anchorage

Alaska gas line may be best

Gov. Sarah Palin should be commended for her efforts to market our North Slope natural gas. Unfortunately, she now claims we have but two choices: TransCanada's or the producers' ever-retreating gas lines across Canada.

Nonsense. We have always had the more lucrative and environmentally preferred all-Alaska, state-owned, privately operated gas line and LNG export option through Valdez. Given the price of oil, we can pay for it in one year -- and pocket the trillions of dollars the gas will sell for in Asia.

If TransCanada turns out to be the best qualified, they can build and operate it for us. If you agree, call or e-mail your legislators today and tell them that's what you want.

-- Mike Macy

Anchorage

Used wind generators worth look

I am no expert on alternative energy. I am no expert on the Bush. I read in National Geographic that the largest wind resources in the world are on the Bering Sea coast and the Aleutians. I recently discovered that in California and other western states the first-generation turbines are being replaced with the new models (larger, more efficient). The old ones, still perfectly usable, are stacked like cordwood all over California. They are nearly giving them away. Has the state considered buying a bunch and installing them in energy-deprived Bush communities? If not, why not? I would think that a one-time investment in the tens of millions of dollars would provide cheap, renewable energy to the coastal Bush. Facing a crisis with no obvious solutions, recycled wind generators look pretty good to me. But I'm no expert.

-- Anthony J. Pippel

Palmer

Quit whining about little eyesores

Regarding "The good, the bad, the ugly" feature: I just find it funny and have to laugh a little when people in this town complain about an "ugly cement median" in the middle of a road, or a big rock on the side of a street near a brick wall, or a dumpster behind a building that you see for maybe, oh, three seconds as you drive by. Don't you yuppies have anything better to do than complain about eyesores in this town? Why don't you do something about it instead of just complain? But don't use my tax dollars, please. I'm not giving my money up just for some flowers for two months out of the year so you don't have to look at a box of dirt for one second while you drive by.

-- Ross R. Henderson

Anchorage

Small-dog owners must be alert

As an owner of two Maltese-poodle mixes, my heart goes out to Marelene Brannen, whose little Toby was killed by an attacking Rottweiler. In the last few months, my dogs have been charged three times by very large dogs while I have been walking them leashed in good residential areas. Fortunately, I always carry a small pepper spray just for this reason, and it is highly effective in stopping the charging dog.

Large dogs are attracted to small dogs as prey; it is instinct. I have owned small dogs most of my life, and I have experienced three serious attacks on my small leashed dogs by unleashed dogs attacking mine. One time the injuries were caused by the large dog "playing" with the little one. On two other occasions there were deep puncture wounds.

Please, dog owners, keep your dogs leashed. Small-dog owners, be on constant alert when walking your dog and always carry pepper spray to stop an attack.

-- Carol Winters

Eagle River

FAIRBANKS NEWS MINER

(Letters to the Editor/Opinion)

Welcome back

World Eskimo-Indian Olympics makes summer whole again

Published Wednesday, July 16, 2008

July in Fairbanks just wasn't like a true July in Fairbanks last year.

Now that the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics is home again, beginning today at the Carlson Center, our Fairbanks summer is whole again.

The four-day event, now in its 48th year, has long been a staple of Fairbanks summers.

When the event moved to Anchorage last summer, locals who had attended the event year-after-year sorely missed the pageantry, browsing the rows of artisans' tables, the socialization and sitting down to watch those tests of strength that make spectators joints and muscles (and ears) ache in empathy.

Attending this event is a treat for the mind and senses more than a simple sporting event.

It runs on a schedule, but is somewhat leisurely. The evening sessions begin at 5 and are scheduled up to midnight, but it's not uncommon for things to run a little late.

It is to be attended with the mindset of soaking it all in, conversing with the people you meet and taking time to listen and understand what you're watching.

It involves gaining an appreciation of different cultures presented by everyone and everything from the Miss WEIO pageant contestants and dancers representing Haida, Tlingit, Tsimshian, Aleut and Athabascan cultures, to the artisans selling their crafts to the athletes performing tests of skill and strength.

The athletic contests can be show-stoppers, make no mistake.

Events ranging from the ear weight and ear pull competitions to knuckle-hop, high kicks and one-arm reach pull spectators into the drama of balance, endurance and sheer athletic skill.

Attending these games involves a broad range of experiences, and most everyone comes away with a different impression or memory from each day's events.

Those who missed the games last year are thrilled to have them back again this year, back in Fairbanks, back at home.

Kudos News-Miner

Chief Mitch Demientieff, Nenana

Published Wednesday, July 16, 2008

July 14, 2008

To the editor:

I want to first of all congratulate the News-Miner for having the courage to make the decision to run the series regarding the John Hartman issue. I also know that Brian O'Donoghue with his teaching and organizing skills is responsible for this work. Having evaluated the work, it became self-evident the work of his students, and I am proud to witness that work because as great as Brian is in my mind, I know you young people did the grunt work and used well-researched information to make this series possible.

It is sad, but racism is alive and well in Alaska today, although it is different from years ago when there were "No Natives or Dogs Allowed" signs on businesses in Fairbanks. Now it is behind the back and through other refined means which do the same thing.

I fully respect the judicial branch of our government, have the confidence that justice will prevail and want to see the proper people brought before the court and the innocent freed.

Presumed innocent?

Dick L. Madsen, Fairbanks

Published Wednesday, July 16, 2008

July 13, 2008

To the editor:

Congratulations on printing the well-written series on the Hartman murder case.

It was well balanced, non-judgmental and yet brought out the many doubts, misconceptions and the immediate focus on only the four defendants by the local police.

Before anyone writes a follow-up letter to you, I will unequivocally state that I have an obvious bias having represented Marvin Roberts since his arrest almost 11 years ago.

Maybe if I live long enough, I will see the day when Marvin will see some small measure of justice in his case. As of now, his slim hopes lie in the State Supreme Court or the state Parole Board.

Within two years, Marvin will be eligible for parole and normally would have an excellent chance given that he has no past criminal record.

However, parole is granted only to those who readily admit their guilt.

I met with him last May and feel confident that he will never admit to something he did not do, even if it could mean his freedom.

Although I have retired after practicing criminal law for nearly 40 years, I continue to represent Marvin Roberts, who is my only remaining client.

In that period of time, I have never seen a case involving two or more defendants when at least one did not testify for the state in order to receive a lesser sentence. This has not happened even though it would put an end to all the doubts and speculation. Very strange indeed.

In the meantime, it is very unlikely that anyone will magically appear to say what happened in October 1997. Roberts may well remain in prison for something he didn't do because one person claimed to have seen something that was impossible to see, perjury was likely committed, a jury violated its oath and a court system could not seem to do the right thing.

Presumed innocent? Not in this case.

Equal opportunity

Zuzanna Bobinski, North Pole

Published Wednesday, July 16, 2008

July 15, 2008

To the editor:

I would like to thank Backyard Amusements for participating in the success of our organization's annual picnic in 2007.

As we were organizing our picnic for this year's event at Pioneer Park, we were saddened to learn that the borough rejected Backyard Amusements' participation in any more private parties in the park. This is truly unfortunate; more than 30 children attended last year's picnic and will miss Backyard Amusements' services this year.

I was also surprised to hear that the Midnight Sun Street Fair had an Anchorage company have its backyard amusement attend instead of having a local company at the Fairbanks street fair.

JUNEAU EMPIRE

(Letters to the Editor/Opinion)

My turn: Sealaska should receive promised acres

The recent Associated Press article about Sealaska's efforts to achieve final land entitlement under the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act is misleading.

The story implies that through federal legislation, Sealaska will receive more land than it is allowed under ANCSA and fails to consider the environmental benefits from passage of this legislative amendment.

Under the proposed amendment to ANCSA, Sealaska would receive only the acres that we are entitled to receive as promised by ANCSA - not a single acre more. Further, the legislation provides greater protection of old growth timber and a net increase in federally designated roadless areas, which has been a national priority for many conservation organizations.

While ANCSA promised Sealaska up to 375,000 acres of our ancestral homelands - a small fraction of the areas historically occupied by our tribal ancestors - we own just 290,000 of those promised acres, by far the smallest share of any Alaska Native Regional Corporation.

No other ANCSA Regional Corporation was as restricted in where their land selections could come from, which is a result of the strong control the now-defunct pulp mills once had on the Tongass.

Sealaska is currently required to select its remaining lands from federally designated "withdrawal" areas.

The proposed legislation would authorize the selection of our remaining ANCSA land entitlement from lands currently outside of the designated withdrawal areas, within Southeast Alaska and from lands generally set aside for commercial timber harvest. There would be a substantial net gain of roadless acreage in the Tongass National Forest, a public benefit.

In our Native language we call the proposed legislation Haa Aaní, simply "Our Land." The official name of the amendment is HR 3560, the "Southeast Alaska Native Land Entitlement Finalization Act."

Under the amendment, Sealaska would select 3,600 acres for traditional Native sacred cultural and historic sites. An additional 5,000 acres of the entitlement would be for 47 sites that could be developed for light-footprint ecotourism projects. Combined, these sites would be off-limits to commercial timber harvest or mineral development.

The remaining acres would come from nine parcels of largely roaded, second-growth forest lands currently managed by the U.S. Forest Service.

Sealaska has been working with Southeast stakeholders over the last decade to create this proposal. It is a manifestation of our commitment to sustaining our Native culture and economies, something we call Haa Shagóon - Our Past, Our Present, Our Future. It is our never-ending work to balance our heritage and culture; our natural resources and environment; and our economy and jobs.

It is our goal to meet the needs of local citizens, Sealaska tribal member shareholders and all Alaska Natives. Sealaska has conducted nearly 150 meetings with stakeholders of every persuasion and actively participates in the Tongass Futures Roundtable, a diverse group of people who reside in or treasure the values of Southeast Alaska. It is this critical process that has informed the legislation and we will continue this effort - Haa Aaní is still a work in progress.

The benefits of the proposed amendments are significant. Sealaska is currently one of the southeast region's largest private employers. The amendment will enable Sealaska to continue to be a significant provider of jobs that positively impact many of the Southeast Alaska communities. The benefits reach beyond just Southeast Alaska.

The ANCSA Section 7(i) revenue sharing provisions with the other ANCSA regional corporations ultimately benefit more than 80,000 tribal member shareholders.

With Haa Aaní, the federal government will fulfill its promise to Sealaska. At the same time, Sealaska will focus on its goals of perpetuating Native culture, serving the economic and social needs of its tribal member shareholders, and securing ownership of lands of great cultural and historic significance to the Native people of Southeast Alaska.

Outside editorial: Taking advice from an oil man

As legendary oil investor T. Boone Pickens tells the story, Republican Bob Dole wanted him to head up his 1996 presidential campaign in Texas. In return, Pickens wanted to be Dole's chief adviser on energy policy.

Dole listened. And Dole advised Pickens on political reality:

Right there, on the floor, that's a sleeping dog. Politicians don't kick sleeping dogs. Bill Clinton doesn't give a damn about energy and I don't either. We're not either one of

us gonna kick a sleeping dog and so energy will not be an issue in this campaign.

But in case one of us stumbles over the dog, and if one of us has a problem, you will be the guy who advises me.

"Neither one of them," Pickens said, "had a problem with energy. ... They didn't want anything to do with it."

And that, he said, sums up why the United States has stood by and watched its addiction to oil grow for decades.

Why would Dole or Clinton have cared? The price of oil struggled to crack $20 a barrel in 1996 and a gallon of gas sold for about $1.50.

Now gas is over $4 a gallon and Pickens isn't waiting for the government to come up with an answer. He has devised his own plan to help the U.S. reduce its dependence on foreign oil - and he's putting money behind it.

In a visit to the Chicago Tribune editorial board last week, Pickens used an easel and a green marker to draw a picture of a country in crisis - and in denial. Net oil imports needed to meet daily demand have nearly doubled in the past 35 years, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, to nearly 60 percent from 35 percent. That's $700 billion a year draining out of the country.

"This is very close to war for this country," said Pickens.

He proposes replacing the 22 percent of electricity the nation gets from natural gas with wind energy. That would free up that natural gas to become an alternative fuel for cars. He says cars running on natural gas could cover 38 percent of U.S. transportation needs.

Pickens is on to something here. Dependence on foreign oil is creating a drag on the U.S. economy and puts the nation in a strategically vulnerable position.

With gasoline this expensive and the U.S. economy teetering, John McCain and Barack Obama aren't talking about sleeping dogs. They're talking energy alternatives. McCain is pushing to build 45 new nuclear plants - and wants to offer a $300 million prize for a better car battery. Obama wants the government to invest $150 billion over a decade in new energy sources.

The Pickens proposal should be part of this mix.

Natural gas has a lot going for it. There's plenty of it here. It's a clean fuel; it doesn't contribute to greenhouse gases. It doesn't poach on the nation's food supply, as

corn-based ethanol does.

There are a lot of moving parts to his plan. A large number of wind turbines would have to be built on a broad swath of the Great Plains from Canada to Mexico. (Price tag? About $1 trillion. Pickens is an investor in wind energy.) A distribution system for the wind power would have to be built. (Estimated cost, $70 billion.) U.S. automakers would have to make a commitment to selling cars powered by natural gas.

Rep. Rahm Emanuel, D-Ill., says he plans to push legislation to encourage automakers to sell natural gas cars here. The technology is available. European markets have shown strong demand for such cars.

These are intriguing ideas. They carry some risk: boosting demand for natural gas cars would hike the price for natural gas if supplies don't rise or if the wind alternative doesn't materialize. But wind, too, is plentiful. These ideas would boost rural economies. And they would help the U.S. halt the disastrous upward trajectory of oil imports.

There are plenty of other ideas. Let's work on clean coal technology. Coal still produces half our electricity - and will for years to come. We need a lot more nuclear power. Conservation efforts? Yes, absolutely.

Swap wind power for natural gas vehicle fuel? Let's see Obama and McCain put that on the table.

The American generation gap transcends race

It was the whisper heard round the world. And even now, no one seems quite certain what that whisper means.

Here was the aging lion Jesse Jackson, sitting in a TV studio, waiting to appear on Fox, forgetting the cardinal rule of TV studios: Always assume the mic is on.

Dissing the young cub Barack Obama in a crude and anatomical way. Beyond the obvious admonition - "Shut up around microphones!" - there's such rich texture here.

It's the story of one generation reluctantly giving way to another - half-supportive, half-suspicious of how the new folks will honor the past. There's fear of irrelevance, fear of mortality, fear the new ones will arrive in the promised land and forget who helped to get them there. It's a classic generational narrative, not limited to African-Americans, but as deeply steeped in that tradition as anywhere.

There's a huge new study out commissioned by the media company Radio One that shines a fascinating light on the complex nuances of black America. The data add a "yes, but" to almost any presumption you might have.

Most blacks say they still struggle with discrimination. Seventy-two percent believe it's important to teach their children to deal with prejudice. But African-Americans aren't nearly as dejected by that as some racial theorists would proclaim.

Seventy percent have a plan for the future. Fifty-four percent are optimistic about what's coming next. Sixty percent believe "things are getting better for me." At a time of general blah in America, these numbers come as pleasant surprise.

Yet whatever you say about black Americans, there's almost always a caveat. Even a phrase like "the black community" doesn't mean any one thing. In fact, its members can't even agree on what they want to be called these days: 42 percent say "black," 44 percent say "African-American."

All of which is to say, at the moment of hope and apprehension, as a torch is passed uneasily from one generation to the next: Be suspicious of all the old stereotypes.

The mics are staying open. The answers will remain complex.

Lisianski Inlet land hustle is wrong

At the Pelican City Council meeting on July 8, I listened with dismay to a teleconference with the U.S. Forest Service Ranger in Hoonah. The basic point conveyed to the residents of Pelican was that discussions were taking place between the forest service and Shee Atika representatives about exchanging Shee Atika land on Admiralty Island at Cube Cove for approximately one third of Yakobi Island and a portion of Chichagof Island across from Pelican.

Should this occur, all the now-public land on the selected areas in Lisianski Inlet would become the private property of Shee Atika Inc.

The Cube Cove land was selected by Shee Atika in the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act; it has been logged by the corporation. The Lisianski land is adjacent to the West Chichagof-Yakobi Island Wilderness Area and is relatively undeveloped land. The Apex-El Nido gold mine across from Pelican went out of production in the late 1930s, and no structures remain standing.

The Chichagof selected land stretches from the waterfall on the inlet across from Pelican westward around into Lisianski Straits to a point approximately two-and-a-half miles past Stag Bay. The Yakobi Island selection reaches from Soapstone Cove at the mouth of Lisianski Inlet to Miner Island and the down the Lisianski Straits to a point approximately two miles past Stag Bay.

The forest service is interested in the exchange, because it would make Admiralty Island National Monument "more whole." Evidently, they overlook current settlements at Greens Creek Mine, Funter Bay, city of Angoon, and Pybus Bay Lodge.

I strongly object to this exchange; quite frankly Shee Atika made its selection and it should keep its land. Shee Atika has utilized its land by harvesting the trees; it makes no sense to trade that land for public land of great value.

The Lisianski land in question is regularly used by residents of Pelican, Juneau, Hoonah, Sitka and elsewhere for deer hunting and other subsistence and recreational purposes. The proposed land exchange would remove more than half of the best hunting areas from public access. Rather than make the Admiralty National Monument "more whole" at the expense of some other area, let us keep ANSCA whole by adhering to the original terms; a deal is a deal. I will be writing to Forest Cole, forest service supervisor in Ketchikan, regarding this subject as well as every politician that may influence him. I encourage others to do the same.

Norm Carson

President, Pelican Chamber of Commerce

Pelican

Wearing a bike helmet matters

Monday morning I received a not-so-subtle reminder about the importance of wearing a bike helmet, even on short trips without much traffic.

A car slowed and motioned me to turn in front of it onto Lake Street from Etolin Way, just as another cyclist was pedaling by in the next lane. As I turned left onto Lake, I looked back to make sure the car was staying stopped and I wasn't going to veer into the path of the other cyclist. Somehow I accidentally squeezed my left (front) brake handle, and when the brakes grabbed my momentum threw me headfirst over the handlebars.

The other cyclist stopped to see if I was OK, and he said it looked like I landed right on my helmet. I have road rash and bruises on the palms of both hands, my right knee and left inner thigh (and I tore a pair of pants). But I have no damage to my head, not even a scratch. The brain bucket worked, likely saving me from a concussion or worse fate.

If you're a cyclist, please learn from my little incident that you should always wear your helmet, including on short trips. Even the most experienced cyclists can take a tumble (I'm not an expert, but I've been commuting by bike off and on since gas cost less than $1 a gallon). I was only a block from my apartment, and on clear pavement with no rain or gravel to make it slick.

If you're a parent and your kids ride a bike, skateboard, scooter, in-line skates or similar vehicle, please be aware there is a Sitka helmet ordinance that requires helmet use for anyone younger than 18 years old (Chapter 11.70.010 of the Sitka General Code, www.hss.state.ak.us/ dph/ipems/injury_prevention/helmetSafety/bicycle/legislation.htm). I've seen a lot more kids riding without helmets, and parents need to be aware they (the parents) can be fined if their child is stopped by police for not wearing a helmet.

Charles Bingham

Sitka

OTHER OP-EDs

(Letters to the Editor/Opinion)

Ketchikan Daily News

Ready, set, register

Everyone knows about the presidential race - the one that seems to have been going on since Moses was in short pants - that's to be decided in our nation's general election in November.

It's been exciting, no doubt about it, and as voters we can hardly wait to participate. A

whole lot of new voters has become engaged in the process this time, people who haven't been interested enough (or old enough) to vote previously.

But there's something to do even before casting those historic ballots in November. And that's register to vote, in order to participate in Alaska's Aug. 26 primary.

It could be tempting to look only at the general election as the big enchilada, so to speak, and not worry about the primary.

But in Alaska, that's not a very good idea.

Two years ago, a sitting governor with decades of experience in the U.S. Senate was ousted - in the primary.

This primary season there will be plenty of names on the ballot, with a dozen candidates for the U.S. Senate seat alone. The best-known name there, of course, is incumbent Republican Sen. Ted Stevens, who is being opposed by Michael Corey, David Cuddy, Jerry Heikes, Rick Sikma, Vic Vickers and Rich Wanda, all seeking the GOP's nod.

It doesn't end there. The Democratic front-runner, Anchorage mayor Mark Begich, isn't the only Democrat on the ballot, either. Ray Metcalfe and Frank Vondersaar want to be that party's standard-bearer.

Other Senate primary candidates are Bob Bird, Alaskan Independence Party, and David Haase, Libertarian.

Alaska Congressman Don Young won't be getting a free ride back to the U.S. House of Representatives, either. Other Republicans who want his job are Gabrielle LeDoux and Sean Parnell. The Democrats are having a dust-up, too, with Diane Benson and Ethan Berkowitz seeking the House nomination in August.

Don Wright is the only Alaskan Independence candidate on the Alaska U.S. House ballot.

But we don't get to vote for (or against!) any of them without being registered to vote.

The deadline to register in time for the primary is July 27, and that's less than two weeks away. That's also the deadline for changing your registration, if you want to switch parties, or if you've moved, according to the state Division of Elections.

You can register to vote at municipal clerks' offices, the Division of Motor Vehicles and the library. Applications also are available online at www.elections.alaska.gov. The division accepts applications in person, of course, but also by mail or fax.

You may register after July 27, but then it will be too late to vote in the primary. And the Division warns that your party affiliation as of July 27 will determine which party ballot you'll be eligible to vote in the primary.

So don't delay; register now. It really is an exciting year for elections; don't be left out.

Unknown

From: Ruaro, Randall P (GOV) [randall.ruaro@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 11:01 AM
To: Reeves; John M (DOT)
Cc: 'gov.palin@yahoo.com'; Rehfeld; Karen J (GOV); Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Balash; Joseph R (GOV)
Subject: FW: Interactive Map Info.

John:

DNR has some extensive mapping abilities and some are available electronically on the web. The maps should show the boundaries and the title that land is held in, such as federal, state, local, ANCSA, etc., and existing infrastructure, such as pipelines, roads, airports, etc., A user guide and links to the maps is attached. I did not mention to anyone at DNR why I needed this information.

If DNR's DGGS division can create a map of known large projects that could be developed, (mining, oil and gas reserves and pipelines (small) and large renewable energy projects), we could overlay the two maps, see where projects are located, know who owns the land the projects are on, and where the project is in relation to existing infrastructure.

At that point, we could start doing some analysis of feasibility, rough cost estimates, positive economic impact, likelihood of stalling out due to environmental lawsuits, what infrastructure would need to be built to get the projects moving, and ranking the projects.

This list could then be discussed by the commissioners and staff of DNR, DOT, Revenue, Labor, and OMB and ultimately, we could provide recommendations to the Governor.

I am also mailing 2 wall size maps showing land ownership. Call me if you have questions.

Randy

From: Angaiak, Mary A (DNR)
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 10:31 AM
To: Ruaro, Randall P (GOV)
Cc: Lesh, Melanie G (DNR)
Subject: Interactive Map Info.

Hi Mr. Ruaro,

I have attached a quick tip user's sheet so that you may use the mapping software programs faster and easier. If you have anymore questions please let me know. It was very nice to meet you and have a nice day.

Mary Angaiak
Department of Natural Resources
Intern under Special Assistant to the Commissioner
Phone: (907) 465-2402
Fax: (907) 465-3886
mary.angaiak@alaska.gov

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 11:39 AM
To: 'beating the odds'
Subject: RE: NFL Agent Leigh Steinberg Invitation

Thank you for writing to Alaska Governor Sarah Palin. The concerns, opinions, and/or information you have sent are important and valuable to the Governor. Although she is unable to respond to each and every email herself, your message has been received and is being reviewed by the appropriate staff person in this office who can best address your need, suggestion, or comment.

From: beating the odds [mailto:rocco@beatingtheodds.org]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 9:34 AM
To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)
Subject: NFL Agent Leigh Steinberg Invitation

July 16, 2008

Dear Governor Palin:

Last year, in partnership with the Beating the Odds Foundation, Leigh Steinberg the real life inspiration of the sports agent from the film Jerry Maguire, created the Leigh Steinberg Beating the Odds Quarterback Club (Quarterback Club). The Quarterback Club consists of "quarterbacks of life," whose stories help students realize their dreams, set goals to reach those dreams, and overcome the challenges of life.

Governors, superintendents, principals, teachers and high school students across America are being invited to join the National Quarterbacks of Life Team and become role models to elementary students. The Quarterbacks of Life Mentoring Program works with students beginning in the fourth grade.

The Quarterback Club would like to invite you to present a message to the elementary students of your state on the power of dreams, goals, overcoming the challenges of life, and the importance of developing a never give up attitude.

Please visit www.beatingtheodds.org and click on Quarterbacks of Life Mentoring Program under programs to see the Governor of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania's Secretary of Education's comments.

The internet is powerful. And we are developing technology that will allow us to reach kids, parents, teachers, counselors and mentors across America.

This technology will enable Beating the Odds Foundation to deliver crucial curriculum to teachers and mentors. Curriculum that includes Quarterbacks of Life success stories. Curriculum that will provide children with the life skills needed to realize their dreams, and have a better shot at living meaningful, safe and productive lives.

A technology with the sole focus on creating leaders out of millions of today's youths.

This program will be available in September of 2008.

This program aims to:

- connect students with mentors and role models

- teach students skills they need to tackle the challenges of life
- help shape the development of America's youth and the leaders of tomorrow

Dr. John C. Worzbyt is the author of the Quarterbacks of Life Mentoring Program curriculum. Dr. Worzbyt has worked with the Beating the Odds Foundation since its beginning, developing the curriculums used by the Foundation for its school programs.

I look forward to hearing. The Quarterbacks of Life would be honored to have you join our team. Your personal message and story will help our youth reach their full potential in life.

Sincerely,

Rocco Scalzi

Founder

(814) 932-8193

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 9:41 AM
To: Irwin; Tom E (DNR); Rutherford; Marty K (DNR)
Subject: Fw: ANWR/Congressman Ralph Hall -- CONFIDENTIAL/ATTORNEY CLIENTPRIVILEGE

Fyi

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 17:36:52 +0000
To: John Katz<jwkatz@alaskadc.org>
CC: Joe Balash<joe.balash@alaska.gov>; K Perry<kris.perry@alaska.gov>; M Nizich<mike.nizich@alaska.gov>; Russ Kelly<rkelly@ALASKADC.org>; Sharon Leighow<sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: ANWR/Congressman Ralph Hall -- CONFIDENTIAL/ATTORNEY CLIENTPRIVILEGE

I do choose to support this, if for no other reason to prove we're willing to take on the strict oversight of anwr development - the question of environmental oversight has been an issue with the naysayers. Thanks

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "John Katz" <jwkatz@ALASKADC.org>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 12:42:23 -0400
To: Sarah Palin<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
CC: Joseph Balash<joe.balash@alaska.gov>; Kris Perry<kris.perry@alaska.gov>; Mike Nizich<Mike.Nizich@alaska.gov>; Russ Kelly<rkelly@ALASKADC.org>
Subject: ANWR/Congressman Ralph Hall -- CONFIDENTIAL/ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Congressman Ralph Hall (Republican, Texas) = called this morning to seek your support for draft legislation (pasted = below) that would convey the Coastal Plain of ANWR to the State of Alaska = in order to facilitate oil and gas development there. The Congressman is working closely with Congressman Young = on the bill and says that he has discussed it personally with President = Bush, who would sign the legislation if it gets to his desk. =

I was non-committal pending this communicat= ion to you. There is no question that the Palin administration = supports responsible oil and gas development in the Coastal Plain.&nbs= p;

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

The legislation would also require a 50/50 = revenue share between the State and federal governments and would impose a = prohibition on oil exports. With the exception of a = few Alaskans, most people believe that these requirements are = inevitable in any ANWR bill that has a chance of passing.

Recommendation: I don't know whether the following would be completely = acceptable to Mr. Hall, but I would recommend the statement below in = response -

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Privileged or I'll stand by for further guidance from you.

P.S.
Mr. Hall would like to introduce his bill = tomorrow but said that he could wait until next week.

[Discussion Draft]
[DISCUSSION DRAFT]
110TH CONGRESS
2D = SESSION H. R. ll
To require transfer of the 1002 Area of Alaska to the = State of Alaska,
and for other purposes.
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATI= VES
Mr. HALL of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred = to the
Committee on llllllllllllll
A BILL
To require transfer of = the 1002 Area of Alaska to the State
of Alaska, and for other purposes.<= BR>1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa2
tives of the = United States of America in Congress assembled,
3 SECTION 1. SHORT = TITLE.
4 This Act may be cited as the "New Resources for
5 Domestic = Consumption Act of 2008".
6 SEC. 2. PURPOSE.
7 The purpose of this = Act is to provide for the expedi8
tious development of oil, natural = gas, and other resources
9 of the 1002 Area of Alaska by transferring = to the State
VerDate 0ct 09 2002 15:13 Jul 15, 2008 Jkt 000000 PO 00000 = Frm 00001 Fmt 6652 Sfmt 6201
C:\\TEMP\\HALLTX~1.XML HOLCPC
July 15, 2008 = (3:13 p.m.)
F:\\M10\\HALLTX\\HALLTX_038.XML
f:\\V10\\071508\\071508.219.xml= (410237|6)
2

[Discussion Draft]
1 of Alaska all right, title, = and interest of the United States
2 in and to such area.
3 SEC. 3. = TRANSFER OF 1002 AREA TO STATE OF ALASKA.
4 (a) IN GENERAL.-Notwithstand= ing any other provi5
sion of law, the Secretary of the Interior shall = within 30
6 days after the date of enactment of this Act transfer = to
7 the State of Alaska all right, title, and interest of the
8 = United States in and to the 1002 Area of Alaska, subject
9 to the = condition in subsection (b).
10 (b) CONDITION.-As a condition of any = transfer
11 under this section, the Secretary shall require the = State
12 of Alaska to pay to the United States 50 percent of all
13 = amounts received by the State of Alaska as a result of
14 development = of oil, natural gas, and other natural re15
sources of the 1002 Area of = Alaska.
16 SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON EXPORT OF OIL.
17 No oil produced = in the 1002 Area of Alaska after the
18 date of any transfer under = section 3 may be exported from
19 the United States.
20 SEC. 5. 1002 = AREA OF ALASKA DEFINED.
21 In this Act the term "1002 Area of Alaska" = means
22 the area described in appendix I to part 37 of title 50,
23 = Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on July 14,
24 2008, = popularly known as the Coastal Plain of the Arctic
25 National Wildlife = Refuge.
VerDate 0ct 09 2002 15:13 Jul 15, 2008 Jkt 000000 PO 00000 Frm = 00002 Fmt 6652 Sfmt 6201
C:\\TEMP\\HALLTX~1.XML HOLCPC
July 15, 2008 = (3:13 p.m.)
F:\\M10\\HALLTX\\HALLTX_038.XML
f:\\V10\\071508\\071508.219.xml= (410237|6)

John W. = Katz
Director of = State/Federal Relations
and Special = Counsel to the Governor
=jwkatz@alaskadc.org
(202)624-5858<= /FONT>

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 1:44 PM
To: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)
Subject: Fw: Draft: Re: Channel 2
Importance: High

So now we just need Audie's one-liner to add... Privileged or Personal Mater

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Nizich, Michael A (GOV)" <mike.nizich@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 13:17:16 -0800
To: ExternalEmailgsp<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: Draft: Re: Channel 2

Looks good!

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com [mailto:gov.sarah@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 1:09 PM
To: Nizich, Michael A (GOV)
Subject: Fw: Draft: Re: Channel 2

Draft comment:

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 20:55:22 +0000
To: K Perry<kris.perry@alaska.gov>
Subject: Draft: Re: Channel 2
Draft

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 11:31:49 -0800
To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: Channel 2
Governor –

Jason Moore would like to talk with you today about DPS. They have been asking for an interview since Sunday.

Sharon Leighow
Deputy Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director

(907) 269-7450 Anchorage
(907) 465-4031 Juneau
(907) 240-7943 cell

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 1:47 PM
To: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Fw: Draft: Re: Channel 2
Importance: High

We're waiting to get Audie's comment attached to this:

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 20:55:22 +0000
To: K Perry<kris.perry@alaska.gov>
Subject: Draft: Re: Channel 2

Draft

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

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To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: Channel 2

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Sharon Leighow
Deputy Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director

(907) 269-7450 Anchorage
(907) 465-4031 Juneau
(907) 240-7943 cell

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 9:37 AM
To: Katz; John W (GOV)
Cc: Balash; Joseph R (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Kelly; Russell T (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Re: ANWR/Congressman Ralph Hall -- CONFIDENTIAL/ATTORNEY CLIENTPRIVILEGE

I do choose to support this, if for no other reason to prove we're willing to take on the strict oversight of anwr development - the question of environmental oversight has been an issue with the naysayers. Thanks

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "John Katz" <jwkatz@ALASKADC.org>
Date: Wed, 16 Jul 2008 12:42:23 -0400
To: Sarah Palin<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
CC: Joseph Balash<joe.balash@alaska.gov>; Kris Perry<kris.perry@alaska.gov>; Mike Nizich<Mike.Nizich@alaska.gov>; Russ Kelly<rkelly@ALASKADC.org>
Subject: ANWR/Congressman Ralph Hall -- CONFIDENTIAL/ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

Congressman Ralph Hall (Republican, Texas) = called this morning to seek your support for draft legislation (pasted = below) that would convey the Coastal Plain of ANWR to the State of Alaska = in order to facilitate oil and gas development there. The Congressman is working closely with Congressman Young = on the bill and says that he has discussed it personally with President = Bush, who would sign the legislation if it gets to his desk. =

I was non-committal pending this communicat= ion to you. There is no question that the Palin administration = supports responsible oil and gas development in the Coastal Plain.&nbs= p;

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

The legislation would also require a 50/50 = revenue share between the State and federal governments and would impose a = prohibition on oil exports. With the exception of a = few Alaskans, most people believe that these requirements are = inevitable in any ANWR bill that has a chance of passing.

Recommendation: I don't know whether the following would be completely = acceptable to Mr. Hall, but I would recommend the statement below in = response -

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Privileged or P I'll stand by for further guidance from you.

P.S.
Mr. Hall would like to introduce his bill = tomorrow but said that he could wait until next week.

[Discussion Draft]
[DISCUSSION DRAFT]
110TH CONGRESS
2D = SESSION H. R. ll
To require transfer of the 1002 Area of Alaska to the = State of Alaska,
and for other purposes.
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATI= VES
Mr. HALL of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred = to the
Committee on llllllllllllll
A BILL
To require transfer of = the 1002 Area of Alaska to the State
of Alaska, and for other purposes.<= BR>1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa2
tives of the = United States of America in Congress assembled,
3 SECTION 1. SHORT = TITLE.
4 This Act may be cited as the "New Resources for
5 Domestic = Consumption Act of 2008".
6 SEC. 2. PURPOSE.
7 The purpose of this = Act is to provide for the expedi8
tious development of oil, natural = gas, and other resources
9 of the 1002 Area of Alaska by transferring = to the State
VerDate Oct 09 2002 15:13 Jul 15, 2008 Jkt 000000 PO 00000 = Frm 00001 Fmt 6652 Sfmt 6201
C:\\TEMP\\HALLTX~1.XML HOLCPC
July 15, 2008 = (3:13 p.m.)
F:\\M10\\HALLTX\\HALLTX_038.XML
f:\\V10\\071508\\071508.219.xml= (410237|6)
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6 days after the date of enactment of this Act transfer = to
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8 = United States in and to the 1002 Area of Alaska, subject
9 to the = condition in subsection (b).
10 (b) CONDITION.-As a condition of any = transfer

11 under this section, the Secretary shall require the = State
12 of Alaska to pay to the United States 50 percent of all
13 = amounts received by the State of Alaska as a result of
14 development = of oil, natural gas, and other natural re15
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F:\\M10\\HALLTX\\HALLTX_038.XML
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John W. = Katz
Director of = State/Federal Relations
and Special = Counsel to the Governor
=jwkatz@alaskadc.org
(202)624-5858<= /FONT>

Unknown

From: gov.palin@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 2:31 PM
To: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Fw: Statement

Audie statement forthcoming:

------Original Message------

From: M Nizich

To: Sarah's Personal Email

Sent: Jul 16, 2008 2:26 PM

Subject: Statement

Chuck will be getting the office a statement from Audie in the next 15 minutes.

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 7:58 PM
To: McBride; Rhonda (GOV)
Cc: Hanson; Britta L (GOV); Hughes; Rosanne D (GOV)
Subject: Map

Hi Rhonda:

If you get a chance tomorrow let's look at the Alaska map by Britta's desk so we can strategize on where we need to have a presence and I can study up on the local issues in areas I should be visiting. Rosanne also, as our public outreach broadens in areas I've yet to visit. We may get a chance to access the King Air next month, that could make for some convenient travel.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 6:21 PM
To: Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Cc: Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Colberg; Talis J (LAW); Balash; Joseph R (GOV); Irwin; Tom E (DNR); Galvin; Patrick S (DOR)
Subject: Re: letter

If we need to meet on this, assuming Whitaker's not completely satisfied with AG's answer, then I'm available tomorrow.

----- Original Message -----

From: Mason, Janice L (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Cc: Nizich, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Colberg, Talis J (LAW); Balash, Joseph R (GOV); Irwin, Tom E (DNR); Galvin, Patrick S (DOR)

Sent: Wed Jul 16 17:45:45 2008

Subject: FW: letter

Please find letter dated July 17, 2008 that was just received via email from Mayor Whitaker in response to the letter he received from the Attorney General. The signed letter is attached.

Dear Attorney General Colberg:

Thank you for your letter dated July 10, 2008. The Fairbanks North Star Borough sincerely appreciates Governor Palin's commitment to finding solutions to Alaska's energy crisis.

Your letter suggests that your office has taken, at most, a purely advisory role with regard to the pricing of cook Inlet natural gas (CI gas). You state that there has been "no action" and "no decision." Although it may be true that the State's intervention in various regulatory proceedings is not the only factor behind cheap CI gas, there is no question that your office has consistently advocated for a non-market price under the public interest pretext of protecting Anchorage "domestic supply needs."

Our point is that this advocacy, apart from anything else the State is doing with respect to CI gas, runs directly counter to Article VIII of our Constitution.

But your office's regulator advocacy is not our only complaint. We also have legal concerns regarding 11 AAC 03.010(e), a regulation that prohibits export of royalty CI gas absent a finding regarding intrastate (i.e., Anchorage) demand. This regulation clearly does not maximize the return on the state's royalty gas. Similarly, approval of the sale of royalty gas to ML&P at excessively low prices runs counter to the Constitution and statute. And there are other examples where state action runs directly counter to

constitutional and statutory requirements.

If the State were truly committed to maximizing gas royalties, it would advocate for a market price for CI gas. There's no doubt that a higher return on CI gas would directly stimulate more private investment, exploration and production in Cook Inlet than artificial price suppression combined with leveraged agreements with the producers.

You note that Fairbanks may be a beneficiary of below-market CI gas. Whether or not Fairbanks receives such de minimis benefit does not change the legal reality that the State's advocacy and other actions regarding CI gas are ripe for legal challenge.

Nevertheless, as long as there is positive movement toward a more equal distribution of the state's energy resources, we remain committed to working with the Administration and legislators on remedying the disparate impact that Alaska's energy crisis has on the Interior.

Sincerely, Jim Whitaker, Mayor

Cc: Governor Sarah Palin

Commissioner Tom Irwin

Commissioner Patrick Galvin

State of Alaska Legislators

Unknown

From: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored) [govpalin@alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 5:58 PM
To: Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Cc: Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Colberg; Talis J (LAW); Balash; Joseph R (GOV); Irwin; Tom E (DNR); Galvin; Patrick S (DOR)
Subject: Re: letter

Thank you

----- Original Message -----

From: Mason, Janice L (GOV)

To: Palin, Sarah (GOV sponsored)

Cc: Nizich, Michael A (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Colberg, Talis J (LAW); Balash, Joseph R (GOV); Irwin, Tom E (DNR); Galvin, Patrick S (DOR)

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Sincerely, Jim Whitaker, Mayor

Cc: Governor Sarah Palin

Commissioner Tom Irwin

Commissioner Patrick Galvin

State of Alaska Legislators

Unknown

From: Lloyd, Denby S (DFG) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=DSLLOYD]
Sent: Wednesday, July 16, 2008 5:05 PM
To: 'tarbox@ptialaska.net'
Cc: Chenault; Mike (LAA); Wagoner; Tom (LAA); 'Senator_Thomas_Wagoner@legis.state.ak.us'; Huggins; Charlie (LAA); Seaton; Paul (LAA); 'edfelt@gci.net'; Marcotte; Jim R (DFG); Hilsinger; John R (DFG); Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored); Stevens; Gary L (LAA); Swanton; Charles O (DFG)
Subject: Re: Concern over potential illegal actions by ADF&G

Ken: thanks for your inquiries, and those in another email that you sent today on similar topics. We have been consulting with the Dept. of Law this season and, as you suggest below, we will consult with them again directly in deriving a response to the points you have raised here. Take care, DL.

----- Original Message -----

From: Ken & Connie Tarbox <tarbox@ptialaska.net>

To: Lloyd, Denby S (DFG)

Cc: Chenault, Mike (LAA); Wagoner, Tom (LAA); Senator_Thomas_Wagoner@legis.state.ak.us <Senator_Thomas_Wagoner@legis.state.ak.us>; Huggins, Charlie (LAA); Seaton, Paul (LAA); Larry Edfelt <edfelt@gci.net>; Marcotte, Jim R (DFG); Hilsinger, John R (DFG); Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored); Stevens, Gary L (LAA); Swanton, Charles O (DFG)

Sent: Wed Jul 16 15:16:22 2008

Subject: Concern over potential illegal actions by ADF&G

Your prompt review of the attached letter would be appreciated. It is my concern that ADF&G continues to conduct itself in a manner that is potentially illegal under State law. I believe a full and open review of these matters by the Attorney General Office may be necessary to resolve them.

If the actions were in fact illegal then the administration in keeping with an open and transparent policy should acknowledge that fact.